

opinions

The Daily Collegian
Wednesday, Sept. 12, 1984

editorial opinion

PSU a Top 20 fund-raiser

The University is expected to be in the Top 20 again, but in a new category — fund raising.

Private contributions to the University totaled \$24.2 million during the 1983-84 fiscal year. This all-time high figure means Penn State is expected to be among the nation's top public universities in fund raising. This is no small feat.

Several reasons for this good news can be found. First, the Office of University Development's Telefund program reached more donors than conventional mail campaigns. This resulted in an alumni participation rate of 18.9 percent and nearly 16,000 first-time donors.

And, alumni groups showed teamwork when 100 percent of the classes participating in this year's reunion weekend announced class gifts.

Also, gifts-in-kind — donations other than money — are up. These totaled \$2.7 million in 1983-84, with the majority received by the College of Engineering. Wilbur L. Meier Jr., dean of that college, deserves congratulations for his efforts in that area.

University President Bryce Jordan also

deserves a hand. His abilities in fund raising were well publicized when he took over the helm of the University a little more than a year ago.

The current year's gift tally got a boost Monday when the University announced it will receive \$5.6 million from the estate of Homer F. Braddock, the last surviving member of the Class of 1900, who died March 21. This is the largest single bequest in the University's history.

But what does all this mean for the average student? More scholarships, fellowships and grants-in-aid may become available. And we all can hope, with private contributions on the rise, the University's need for increased funding from public sources and especially its need for higher tuition may be decreased.

But the University should realize that these gifts must be used efficiently if it hopes to encourage even more donations in the future. Younger alumni will not be likely to give money to the University if they leave here with memories of wasted resources and constantly increasing tuition bills.

Apartheid still reigns

In the shadows of Canadian elections and American campaigning last week, another country in another hemisphere changed its system of government.

But the news coming out of South Africa last week didn't focus on the new chamber.

The news from South Africa last week focused on the worst rioting in that country since the tragedies of Soweto, a black residential area of Johannesburg, in 1976.

Of course, over two dozen dead and nearly 300 injured in rioting should be news. But, more importantly, the news should focus on the reasons behind this rioting.

Unfortunately, the reason behind last week's rioting is the same as that of 1976. And that reason can be summed up in one word: Apartheid.

Apartheid is still the winner in South Africa, even after a change in the system of government. The rioting and looting in South Africa resulted from mounting tensions over ethnic elections that took place under a new national constitution that took effect last Tuesday.

Those elections, although giving some governmental representation to "Coloreds" (South African term for people of mixed races), Asians and Indians, are a not-so-funny joke in the eyes of a democratic form of government.

The problem in South Africa is that the government excludes any representation from the country's 73 percent black majority. That is apartheid.

Twenty-two million blacks in South Africa are ruled by a 4.6 million white minority. That is why the rioting has been so bad.

Apartheid, simply, puts South Africa back into the stone ages as far as civil rights are concerned.

The riots will continue to make the headlines. Maybe it will be a week, a month, a year or maybe even several years before the rioting flares again. But it is bound to happen.

Because even the days there isn't any rioting, the majority of the population of South Africa lives in total repression — no voice in government, and no where to turn.



AND THIS ISN'T EVEN WATER... IT'S RED INK!

reader opinion

Tuition rollback?

This is about money and Penn State. For many people money is a difficult subject — for students and their parents, for the administration and for The Daily Collegian.

For this school year the annual appropriation from the state was almost nine percent (8.9) more than the previous year's figure. In fact, it was an increase more than twice the size of that given in 1983-84, which saw an increase of four percent. This year's increase was referred to by President Jordan as "a fair share" of state revenues.

Penn State's reaction was to ask the trustees for permission to raise tuition by 10.5 percent. Private colleges didn't raise tuition that much, and public institutions in America averaged an 8 percent increase — not almost 11. I don't think that anyone was surprised with an increase since it has been a year of life for 17 years. What surprised was the magnitude of it.

We had heard for several years about the "ravages of inflation." Not this year because it just is not that big a factor. Depending on whose figures you use, inflation over the past year has run between 5.6 and 4 percent. Yet the increase in the state appropriation and the tuition total almost 20 percent. Not bad in a year where inflation is the lowest in recent years.

Penn State will soon announce a drive to raise a quarter of a billion dollars, the first major effort in its history. Much of that large goal is earmarked for endowment to defray some future costs. So in the future tuition increases will be lower? Maybe.

But this state is still hard hit by the changes in how people earn a living. The heavy manufacturing of the industrial age, which was the very foundation of Pennsylvania is in serious decline. This state has not recovered from it. Some tax bases have eroded and unemployment is high, especially in the western part of the state. Many of our students come from there, and for some of them just staying in school is difficult financially. The applications they submit for scholarships show a home reality that is grim.

So do many blacks who are arriving in slightly increased numbers, following a lawsuit against Penn State by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. It has once again become fashionable (the law suit helped) to recruit black students here — something Penn State has never done with great success, except for running blacks to entertain the public at the stadium. The additional costs of attending Penn State will not help to integrate this place.

Now the technique changes. This past weekend the trustees approved a request from the administration for a state appropriation for next year of \$190 million, close to 12 percent above this year's. That is awfully high and is said to be a substitute for another tuition rise next year. It seems that such a request will only trigger similar proposals from other recipients of legislative cash. With all sorts of state agencies trying to match it, an increase in revenues would be necessary that don't appear obvious from traditional tax sources. This state is still recovering from recession and industrial change.

Year after year the state is portrayed as the problem, the bad guy, the heavy. "They never give us enough money," we hear incessantly. Yet the state doesn't make out the tuition bills or the budget. Penn State's administration does. Why not trim the budget, cut it? Even the Pentagon does, year after year.

The state more than doubled its increase and that is generous. President Jordan calls that one leg of the stool; another leg is private support and that is underway. The third is better management. How is that to come about? We hear very little about it. With better management why not a tuition rollback next semester, this coming January, to a figure of half this year's increase? A real break for the students and the deserve it. In July a couple of the trustees were in favor of such a reduction.

Since the subject is money, perhaps it is time the Collegian turn some of its considerable resources into a long look at the problem.

Robert Farson, professor of journalism
Sept. 11

opinions

From clichés to dog fudge, you can have them, Penn State

From the time I was 10 years old, teachers, friends and family members have called me a chronic complainer. I suppose that is true because I do spend a lot of time moaning about one thing or another.

So, keeping true to form, I think I'll publicly air some of my pet gripes. Mind you, I've probably been guilty of most of the things I'm about to list here now, so I guess that makes me a hypocrite as well.

After a while? The chorales and guffaws ended the first time I heard it.

I hate people complaining about the lines that materialize at mandatory PSU functions. I can't be bothered with lines any more. If you know you're going to be stuck in line, then just accept it. All the cursing in the world about the inefficiency of the Phil Pao, the zoning ordinance that states no more than three unrelated people in an area zoned single family dwelling). Sometimes I think people don't remember the reason this University is the largest employer in this Congressional district. How many jobs would be available without the University? And the money supplied by the students?

I hate the constant impositions tacked on the students (for example, the noise ordinance, the potential future banning of the Phi Psi, the zoning ordinance that states no more than three unrelated people in an area zoned single family dwelling). Sometimes I think people don't remember the reason this University is the largest employer in this Congressional district. How many jobs would be available without the University? And the money supplied by the students?

I hate the sandwiches some fast food restaurants in this town try to pass off as subs or hoagies. Actually, what we're being served is a roll and mayonnaise with sprinkled meat and cheese flavorings.

I hate being harassed by the various religious holy rollers that pop up every time the weather is nice. I swear these people are being produced in a genetic engineering laboratory somewhere beneath the Univer-

city and spewed out during warm days. What's even more cruel is sitting in a class in Willard on a hot, muggy day and trying to hear the professor over the bimotoone.

I hate walking barefoot on University lawns and finding myself almost stepping in the dog fudge that some disrespectful pet owner neglected to scoop. Which reminds me, does State College have Pooper Scooper laws? If not, why?

Also, I'm sure the original owner of convenience stores was an ancient British highwayman. The concept is the same, right? Relieve innocent citizens of their money and give them nothing in return.

I hate seeing some poor motorists hopelessly stalled in traffic while uncaring hoards of students file unendingly in front of his or her car. What a brash thing to do!

I hate the arguments that almost always pop up in State College about the issue of pornography. First of all, this sheltered little heaven seems fairly tucked away from real life to escape porn and the low life it dredges in. I mean, what do some people think, porn movies will be filmed on location in Happy Valley? Not bloody likely. This

town is too sleepy for location shooting of "Little House on the Prairie."

I hate attending 8 a.m. classes in a poorly ventilated, overly crowded room that some University employee had the wisdom and insight to just grace with a fresh coat of paint. Really fellas, the smell doesn't bother me too much. Don't worry that I find it difficult to keep my Wheaties down. Don't paint the room on a Saturday when nobody is there.

In ending, I'd like to say that I hate the hassles of trying to write a check in this town. Not only do you have to provide your name and address but also your social security number, local phone number, home phone number, home address, your parent's names, any and all addresses and phone numbers you've held in the last ten years, blood type, hair color, eye color, likes and dislikes, religious affiliations, hobbies, communicable diseases...

Michael Newman is a chronic complainer, a senior majoring in journalism and a staff member of The Daily Collegian.

reader opinion

City cow-tipping

I would like to address this letter to the immature person or persons who rolled my Volkswagen Bug on its side on Sunday morning at 3 a.m. while it was parked in the rear alley of 223 S. Atherton St.

Sure, you were out for a good time Saturday night — hit a few parties, get drunk and raise hell. You saw a VW bug parked in a lot and decided that it would be fun to do some "city cow-tipping." Or maybe you were trying to steal my stereo and speakers, but upon discovering that I had installed a double lock system on my doors and windows (to prevent theft), you got angry and rolled my car over on its side. You sure must have had fun... at my expense.

Obviously you have little or no respect for other people's property, and I assume you are still dependent on your parents for your car, schooling, food, money, etc. Some of us, like myself, are independent of our parents, and work hard for the material and intellectual possession we own. I worked 12 hours a day over the summer break to get money for schooling and living expenses, and to fix and paint my car. I spent the weekends learning and performing maintenance on my car to save myself money, and apparently to no avail, thanks to you.

The estimate on my car is \$1,200 for repairs (2 running boards, 2 fenders, alignment, paint, the entire oil system, linkage for the transmission, driver's door, side-view mirror, and glass). No doubt, my insurance costs will go up, and I will be deeper in the hole. (Unlike you, I don't run to mom and dad for cash.) It looks like I will be working extra hours on my job to try to get back to where I started before this thoughtless, selfish act occurred. As you can tell, I am frustrated, sickened and angry about your incredibly rude actions.

Joan Stumpf, junior-recreation and parks management
Sept. 9

More on porn

I attended "The Pornography Debate" as Ms. Taylor did. I agree that the debate was at best a parody. However, I do not agree with her opinion that "Reems ripped Alexander's argument to pieces point by point."

Ms. Taylor did not realize that, although "Alexander's speech was canned" it was based on facts from such reliable sources as the F.B.I. and *Forbes* magazine.

However, Mr. Reems' speech was based in most part on opinion and a few outdated facts. An example is his rebuttal of one of Alexander's statistics in which he brilliantly stated "Bullshit!" Fact or opinion, Ms. Taylor?

Mr. Reems was little more than a rabble-rouser. Anyone with opposing viewpoints was treated with harsh comments from their fellow Penn Staters. It is these very same responses that help me justify my opinion.

Ms. Alexander's speech was callously booted. The majority of these boos were from loud-mouthed, immature "men." These were the men that supported pornography.

They appeared to be in favor of an open sexual attitude, yet at Alexander's reference to gay and lesbian rights, they had the audacity to boo! Quiet a contradiction! This is the opposite of Mr. Reems' statement that pornography promotes sexual openness.

The verbal attacks made by the few outraged women who dared to question Reems' speech were greeted with an onslaught of incoherent comments from these very same pretentious men. Isn't this a form of sexual violence, Ms. Taylor?

Brett McCarthy, sophomore-business
Sept. 10

reader opinion

WHAT?... AND GIVE UP POLITICS?

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Robert Farson, professor of journalism
Sept. 11

The Casual Way

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kelly's

SHOE PUB
140 S. Allen St.

the Collegian

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Alecia Swasy Susan M. Melle
Business Manager

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'More of the same old thing' describes the new TV season

The new season for network television is getting under way soon. Big deal. I'm sure all of you just ran to the local newsstand to get your souvenir edition of the new TV Guide.

When I was younger, I always thought the start of the new television season was the greatest thing since peanut M & Ms. But with a few more years and a few too many M & Ms under my belt, I now look at the new television season schedule and sigh.

Anyway, back to this dreadful television schedule. Let's take a look.

It looks like the Columbia Broadcasting System, which is still first in the ratings (as far as I know), has a real winner once again in its fall season.

CBS is offering such classic programs as "Airwolf" and "The Dukes of Hazzard." I'm just wondering what an "airwolf" is. Oh, it's one of those take-offs on "Blue Thunder." I'm sure it's a classic already.

"The Dukes of Hazzard" is another favorite of everyone. I'm sure it's a recurring fantasy of your's to see how many cars you can wreck in an hour. What strikes me as odd is that after every one of those wrecks, the driver and all his/her passengers always crawl out of the car as if they had just tripped over an extension cord or something. How's that for realism. Why doesn't somebody tell them they just ran head-on into a utility pole at 135 mph, jumped a 200-foot wide canyon and rolled down an embankment with the car coming to rest in a patch of boulders and scrubgrass?

I'll tell you, if that happened to me, I sure the hell wouldn't be walking around even if my legs were still attached to the rest of me.

Although I always tried to watch "MASH," I've never once seen "AfterMASH" — I'm sure I would be disappointed if I did.

Here's a good one. "Charles in Charge" is about a live-in babysitter for three sassy kids. And Scott Baio stars! But darn, it's on the same time as "Highway to Heaven."

Michael Landon stars in NBC's "Highway to Heaven" as an angel on Earth who brings people together. For some reason, I just can't imagine Pa Ingalls in white robes with a halo.

The National Broadcasting Company has some more winners in store. "TV's Bloopers and Practical Jokes." It's always good to sit around and watch with a six-pack. Or, you could always invite your date over to watch "The A-Team."

But if none of those grab your fancy, NBC has others to offer. How about "Foul-ups, Bleeps & Blunders" on Tuesday night, just in case you missed "TV's Bloopers and Whatever" on Monday night. AND, just in case you missed both "TV's Bloopers and Practical Jokes" and "Foul-ups, Bleeps and Blunders," Bert Conroy, on Thursday nights, will host "People Do the Craziest Things."

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Like people who write columns on how dumb the new television season is and they don't even watch TV.

But the "Best New Show Before The Season Starts Because It Sounds Like A Real Winner Award" goes to NBC for having the intelligence, foresight, and actual honesty-to-God audacity to give us "Partners in Crime."

Loni Anderson and Lynda (with a "y") Carter star as glamorous detectives.

And I thought "McCloud" would never see his match.

Ron Yeany is a senior majoring in journalism, got all his classes back after the computer erased him, and is editorial editor of The Daily Collegian.