

opinions

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The Daily Collegian
Friday, Dec. 5, 1986

editorial opinion

Parking woes

It's a problem that people aren't remaining neutral about.

If you drive on campus you've experienced it and no doubt complained about it many times before: there are thousands of students with cars but never enough parking spaces on campus to go around.

For every 100 parking spaces, the office of University Parking has issued 190 parking permits — not exactly equitable in terms of supply and demand.

The University parking committee — composed of administrators, faculty, staff and students — is investigating long-term alternatives to the parking problem, such as building an underground parking garage. But any solutions the commission devises will not solve the parking crunch on campus for some time.

In the meantime, though, there are constructive measures you can take to avoid the \$20 parking tickets and to find a place to park on campus — perhaps not an optimum one, but a parking space nonetheless.

A complete list of regulations and a map of available parking spaces are issued to every student who registers for a parking permit. Reading these will explain exactly what parking is available — when and where.

While congested parking is indeed aggravating, not registering vehicles for a parking space is not the solution. There is an opportunity cost for everything and thousands of students who don't register their cars in hopes of avoiding tickets or parking restrictions increase the problem and enforcement becomes more costly. It is more worthwhile to consider parking legally before you choose to park elsewhere and hope you don't get a ticket.

Case in point: contrary to popular belief, parking lot 80 is not the only option for parking after 5:30 p.m. Spaces near Pattee Library as well as other designated areas are available.

Yes, complaints about parking are justified, but while you're screaming about how the problem is driving you crazy, examine all of your parking options. Chances are there are more parking opportunities than you originally thought.



reader opinion

Class act

I'm thrilled with the 11-0 season of my beloved Lions football team! What has happened to Penn State Class? Penn State Sportsmanship? Penn State Proud? I am heartsick that Penn State fans would enjoy sportsmanlike conduct; that my team would become entrapped into behavior which necessitated its coach, for whom I have the utmost respect, to go across the field to extricate players from a brawl.

I fall to understand what pleasure comes from the destruction of expensive property — goalposts. I grieve when, on local radio station, fans were encouraged to go finish removing the bent goalpost, and on another fans involved in tearing posts down were interviewed. To have my newspapers give front page coverage to such actions seems to condone and encourage them.

I plead with Penn State fans, players and media to set high standards — PENN STATE STANDARDS — and to be the examples for those standards. I want to cheer "WE ARE... PENN STATE" and have the way we act be something of which we can be truly proud. Only then can we really be No. 1.

Marnie Hoy
State College

We want to know

Is the United States facing another Watergate scandal? Is the media exaggerating what's happening with the Reagan administration? Is President Reagan fessing up to the secret White House arms sales to Iran and money transfers to Nicaragua rebels? Should a special Congressional Committee be appointed to investigate the situation or should private counsel be hired to take a look at what's going on?

The Daily Collegian's Board of Opinion would like to know what the faculty, students, staff and area residents think about the entire Iranian arms sales situation.

Deadline for letters-to-the-editor (no more than 1 1/2 pages, double-spaced) and forums (up to three typed pages, double-spaced) is 1 p.m. Monday, Dec. 8. Materials should be directed to Opinion Editor Terry Mutchler or Assistant Opinion Editor Jim Higgins.

All authors must bring the materials to the Collegian office, 126 Carnegie Building, in person and present proper identification. (If there is more than one author, all must be present.)

Students' letters should include the semester and major of each writer. Letters from alumni should include the author's major and year of graduation. Names may be withheld on request.

Due to the large number of letters received, publication of each letter cannot be guaranteed.

Robert LaVerghetta
junior-aerospace engineering

Man talk

I am writing this letter in response to the "Feminism: Men speak out..." which appeared on November 19. I would like to relate an incident that happened to me in high school, and to address a point made in the article.

I was at a magnet school fair representing a science club that was part of our magnet school. A woman came over to our booth and asked, "Are there many women in your science club?" I politely responded, "Yes, in fact our chairman is a woman, my friend Patricia." The woman exclaimed, "The chairMAN is a woman?" She lectured me about word usage (even though according to the American Heritage Dictionary I used the word correctly), and then left.

What reminded me of this incident was the passage in the article that stated "men need to object when people say 'chairman' in referring to a woman." Author Sidney Siller addressed this point in his article "Men's Rights." He stated that "women's campaign to eradicate gender-

AIDS facts

The Daily Collegian should get its facts straight on the AIDS epidemic before climbing up on the soapbox to preach about it (Nov. 20). Concerning the spread of the disease, it was claimed that, "All the lecturing and warnings to drug abusers and homosexuals obviously have not worked." In fact, the potential occurrences of AIDS among gay men nationwide have been curbed by increasingly effective AIDS education and publicity programs, mostly initiated by the gay and lesbian community itself. It has also been that same community which has been primarily responsible for pressuring the federal government to increase AIDS and AIDS-related research funding.

The Collegian's inaccuracy on this point does nothing more than perpetuate ignorance of a minority group already vulnerable to prejudice and unwarranted attack.

Bob Bender
senior-communications

opinions

The big hunt:

Does the right to bear arms come before the protection of human and animal lives?

"I'm going where?" I asked Jill, my editor.

"Buffalo, Wyoming. You had better hurry, if you miss your bus it's a long walk."

"But it's a reporter's job. I'm not a reporter."

"All we need is a writer."

"Like I said, I'm a columnist, not a writer."

I wasn't able to whine my way out of the assignment no matter how hard I tried. I ended up on my way to Buffalo, home of Bud Winchester, apparently one of the most famous hunters in these United States.

"What's so important about Bud Winchester?" I asked Jill.

"Nothing really. It's just that deer season is under way and we need a decent hunting story."

After the tiresome trip, I started up the long gravel drive to Mr. Winchester's house, wondering what I was getting into. As I turned the corner I got my first look at the house. What a sight! A long ranch-style place that looked as if it had grown on the spot. A decent forest must have gone into making all the rough-hewn logs that the house was built out of. The late evening light only improved its looks. I knocked on the heavy door.

A man of about six feet and well over 200 pounds, dressed in faded blue jeans and a red flannel shirt opened the door. He peered down at me through his tinted glasses and said, "You must be the boy from the Collegian, come on in, come on in."

"Collegian. Thank you very much, Mr. Winchester, I —"

"Bud. Call me Bud. Everyone does. Give me your luggage and make yourself at home."

As he marched off with my two bags, I had a good look at the room.

A generous fire burned brightly in the huge stone fireplace. The flickering orange light bathed the cedar paneled floors, wall and ceiling. "If that fire decides to wander, we're in for one hot time," I thought to myself.

Trophies from thousands of safaris adorned the walls. Looking down I noticed the rug I was standing on was actually an animal. I didn't recognize it.

"What kind of creature was this rug?" I called out to Bud.

"One of the best shots of my life: it's a Himalayan Pleece Footed Fox," he shouted from an adjacent room.

"Sounds rare," I shouted back.

"It is," he said as he walked back into the room I was in. "It's probably the last of its kind. One of the best trophies I have, no doubt." He rocked back and forth on his feet with pride.

The thought of collecting endangered species as floor coverings was more than just a bit sick. I stepped off lightly. Instead of letting on that I was disgusted, I asked him to show me a few more of his most prized trophies.

"Over here is one of my favorites out of the South American Jungle." He was pointing to a jaguar that was shot while leaping, its mouth wide open and fangs exposed. "If I hadn't made that shot, the thing would have gotten to one of my best friends."

He was grinning ear to ear with the thought of saving his buddy. Maybe it all could have been avoided if he didn't wander into the "things" territory in the first place.

"What's that one?" I asked, pointing toward something near the ceiling. Without my glasses I couldn't make it out.

"Oh, that was pretty funny. I was in the Catskills hunting deer a few years back when I saw something out of the corner of my eye." Bud gestured a quick turn-around motion while holding an invisible shotgun.

"I let one rip and later found out that all I had landed was a Buick. Good thing no one was in it at the time."

"Good thing," I repeated.

"Why don't we go take a look at my guns? Everyone is always asking to see my guns."

We walked down a hall and into another respectfully-sized room. A row of glass cabinets were full of every type rifle and shotgun that you might care to use.

"Boy, I guess you're not quite the person to encourage gun control," I said sarcastically.

Bud spun on his heels and suddenly turned serious. "I am certainly not," he said coldly. "If we outlaw guns, only outlaws will have guns."

"Listen son, it's my God-given right to bear arms and I'll never let some nambypamby liberal take it away from me."

"I don't think that's the goal of gun control," I pointed out. "The idea is to keep guns away from criminals, not sportsmen like yourself."

"But that means restricting handguns," Bud countered.

"Sure, what's wrong with that? I don't think you can hunt with a pistol, can you?"

"No, but I can protect myself with it."

Coming from a man that lives more than 100 miles away from civilization in any direction and owns just about every other firearm available on the market, that sounded very funny.

"Protect yourself from what?" I asked.

"From what doesn't matter. It's my right to shoot an intruder if I want to and nobody's gonna take it away from me."

"You're going to allow criminals to run around cities murdering innocent people so you can have the pleasure of shooting a possible intruder. Doesn't that sound a bit selfish?"

"Son, guns don't kill people, people kill people." This was the second time he was referring to me as a relative. It was not a compliment.

"That may be true, but it seems to me that someone needs to pull the trigger somewhere down the line. I'd say that people kill people a lot easier with a gun than without."

Well, Bud wasn't about to stand around and listen to a nambypamby liberal lecture him on gun-control any longer. He got my bags and sent me on the way home.

As the countryside sped by outside my window, I wondered if there was any chance he might ever change his mind. I suppose I'll be skating on the River Styx long before.

Philip Staub is a sophomore in the Division of Undergraduate Studies and a columnist for The Daily Collegian. His column appears every other Friday.

the Daily Collegian

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quote/unquote Do you think the axing of the Liquor Control Board was positive or negative?

Ted Schaffer
sophomore
oultry technology
and management

"It's some kind of authority that's going to regulate. If it's there people know it's wrong. If it's not there then people won't even think about it. If it's there then there's a little risk involved so maybe it's not worth it."

Cindy Lesh
senior
marketing
and management

"It would help prices. Pure competition is the way business should be run, not state regulated."

David Southworth
junior
agricultural business management

"Pennsylvania has an absolute monopoly over liquor sales. De-regulation of the LCB will open up competition. Maybe we'll get more liquor stores."

Kerry Sanger
graduate
speech communications

"It should be privately owned. I think it's better for the consumer and probably the state. There'll be more competition in prices rather than just one price. It doesn't seem the kind of thing a state government should be involved in."

Dan McFeely
senior
engineering science

"It's going to open the market for more competition. I think once it becomes decentralized it's probably going to be run more efficiently."

Nathalie Manfull
junior
theater

"In some aspects, they need to control underage drinking. I had friends in high school who died in drunk driving accidents. It's not too cool."

Compiled by Collegian staff writer Patricia Roach and photographer Stacy Mink

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