

OPINION

THE DAILY
Collegian

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About the Collegian: The Daily Collegian and The Weekly Collegian are published by Collegian Inc., an independent, nonprofit corporation with a board of directors composed of students, faculty and professionals. Pennsylvania State University students write and edit both papers and solicit advertising for them. During the fall and spring semesters as well as the second six-week summer session, The Daily Collegian publishes Monday through Friday. Issues are distributed by mail to other Penn State campuses and individual subscribers.

Complaints: News and editorial complaints should be presented to the editor. Business and advertising complaints should be presented to the business manager.

Who we are

The Daily Collegian's editorial opinion is determined by its Board of Opinion, with the editor holding final responsibility. The letters and columns expressed on the editorial pages are not necessarily those of The Daily Collegian, Collegian Inc. or The Pennsylvania State University. Collegian Inc., publishers of The Daily Collegian and related publications, is a separate corporate institution from Penn State. Editorials are written by The Daily Collegian Board of Opinion.

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Kevin Cirilli, Jenna Ekdahl, Bill Landis, Elizabeth Murphy, Laura Nichols, Edgar Ramirez, Andrew Robinson, Heather Schmelzlen, Jared Shanker, Katie Sullivan, Alex Weisler, Steph Witt and Chris Zook.

Letters

We want to hear your comments on our coverage, editorial decisions and the Penn State community.

- **E-mail**
collegianletters@psu.edu
- **Online**
www.psucollegian.com
- **Postal mail/In person**
123 S. Burrowes St.
University Park, PA 16801

Letters should be about 200 words. Student letters should include class year, major and campus. Letters from alumni should include year of graduation. All writers should provide their address and phone number for verification. Letters should be signed by no more than two people. Members of organizations must include their titles if the topic they write about is connected with the aim of their groups. The Collegian reserves the right to edit letters. The Collegian cannot guarantee publication of all letters it receives. Letters chosen also run on The Daily Collegian Online and may be selected for publication in The Weekly Collegian. All letters become property of Collegian Inc.

EDITORIAL: CATA

Bus fare increase soft on riders

Centre Area Transportation Authority (CATA) has finally increased its fare — it's the first hike in eight years.

And it'll only cost you an additional quarter.

While a price increase from CATA, which students rely on for transportation, is disappointing, we understand the agency's actions.

CATA announced last week that the price for a one-way ride on a bus to an off-campus location will increase from \$1.25 to \$1.50 to offset rising costs.

We applaud CATA for not increasing the price sooner in a time when consumers face price

hikes at every turn.

CATA officials also took the right steps to gauge how well the public would take the proposed change.

At an open CATA meeting in April, general manager Hugh Mose announced the potential hike to the general public. He also presented the plan to all nine local municipalities that CATA serves.

Transparency is key with anything to do with people's wallets — and in this instance, CATA gets a gold star.

CATA is important to a large part of the community, and its leaders went above and beyond to gath-

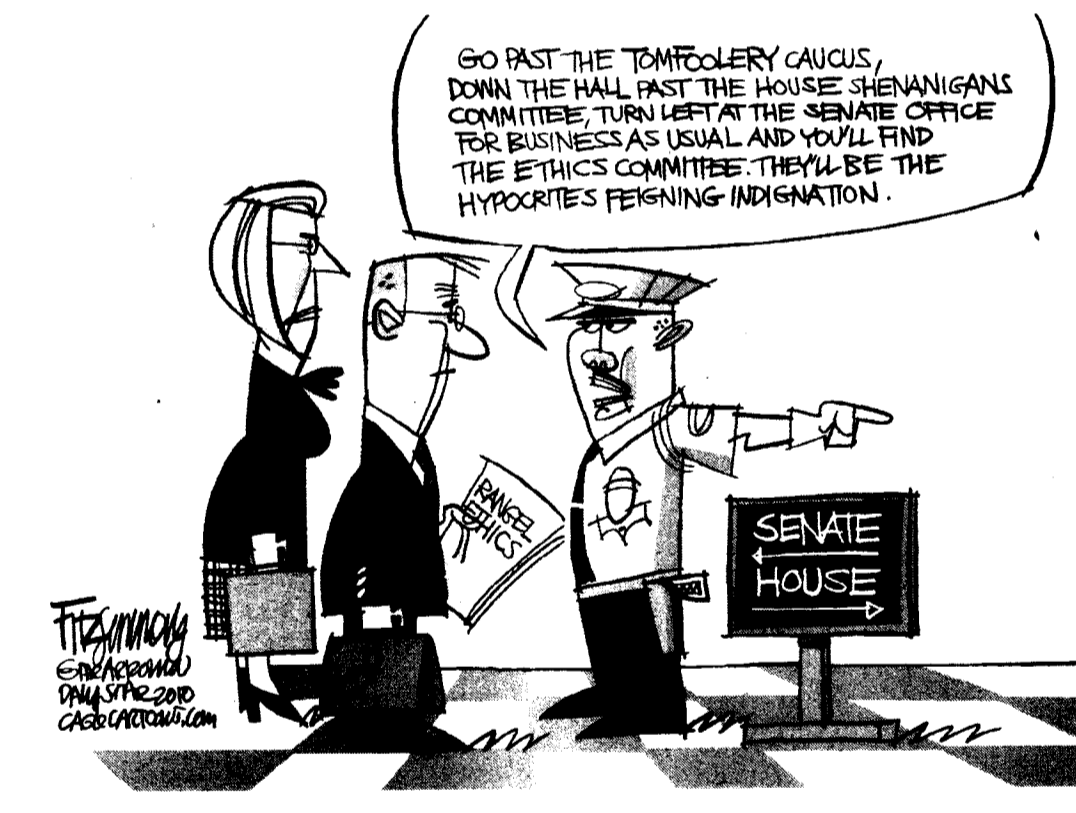
er feedback and elicit responses from those that use the services.

Community members had a chance to voice disapproval at every turn.

And CATA has also made every effort not to put the entire burden solely on its consumers.

Mose also asked the municipalities to increase its funding of CATA and its services, with an overall increase from these municipalities totaling 5 percent.

People rely on the CATA buses day in and day out. CATA has shown through the handling of this price increase process that it can be trusted, too.



Philadelphia sports fan got off easy

By Shannon Simcox

I'm a Philadelphia sports fan, so when there is talk — at Penn State and other-

wise — of some of the rude things people do at sporting events, I'm mostly not surprised.

As a 13-year-old girl, I swapped insults with the best of them in the 700 level of Veterans Stadium, where my dad, uncles and I had season tickets to the Eagles games. I've seen it all: drunk bachelor parties that came in late and didn't make it to half-time before vomiting behind my seat, two NY Giants fans that unsuccessfully attempted to enjoy a game two rows in front of me and, of course, fights.

Then as a Penn State student, I was initiated into the family with the infamous Notre Dame game and watched in awe (yet feeling somewhat right at home) as the whole student section turned around and flipped off the team.

And throughout the years at Beaver Stadium, my "fandom" has been nurtured by throwing snowballs at the officials, the Nittany Lion and, of course, by various antagonizing conversations I've witnessed between visiting team fans and our wonderful Penn State crowd.

The point, if you have not got-

ten it: As a Philly and Penn State fan I have pretty much seen it all. And yet, despite all that, I was still disgusted and surprised at the actions of the man who forced himself to vomit on a police officer and his daughter at a Phillies game.

If you have not heard the story, look it up, but I will give you some of the details here. The officer was out to a Phillies game with his kids and the obnoxious New Jersey man, Matthew Clemmens, was sitting behind them. When the officer's older daughter asked him to tone it down, Clemmens, and his friend, only became worse. The incident ended with the man forcing himself to vomit on the man and his younger daughter, according to reports, and as of July 30 the man is in the can.

A judge sentenced him to up to three months in prison, as well as two years of probation and 50 hours of community service, according to the New York Daily News.

He got off easy. If that little girl had been me, Clemmens would not have made it out of the stadium easily between my uncles and my dad.

I am amazed that, as an officer and father, he was able to show so much self-restraint at

the game and not hit the man.

The maximum sentence was for up to two years in jail, but Clemmens received just two years of probation. Meanwhile the little girl is afraid to go to another Phillies game, which is a shame.

Now, as a Philly fan, I'd like to write off the man's actions by saying he was from Jersey. However, a number of Philly fans are, so that won't work as well as I'd like.

What I can tell you is that this never should have happened, let alone to an innocent little girl and her family. Sure, we Philly and Penn State fans heckle and abuse, but it's mostly, and should always be, toward the opposing team. If you don't like it — get out of our city.

But sporting events are first and foremost a good time that should be enjoyed by everyone. Definitely cheer and heckling is a must, but keep your alcohol under control and remember what it's all about — enjoying the game, no matter what side you are on.

Shannon Simcox is a senior majoring in journalism and political science and is the Collegian's Tuesday columnist. Her e-mail address is scs5096@psu.edu.

LETTERS

Continued football increases pushing loyal PSU fans away

In regards to the July 30 article "Cost of football parking on the rise," I have been attending games my whole life with my family. I am a freshman at Penn State now, and through the years I have seen a steady increase in ticket prices as well as parking prices. A few years back, \$40 would have gotten you a ticket and a parking spot.

Penn State possesses some of the most loyal fans in college football. Why does it seem like they are pushing fans away? With today's economy, the increase in tickets and parking make it difficult for many families to attend multiple games. I understand some increases in ticket prices are necessary, yet \$40 to park a car is a ridiculous amount. In today's tough financial times, this is unfair to the fans that pack in Beaver Stadium week in and week out to see the Nittany Lions prosper against their weak home schedule.

The university knows people will still attend the games and obviously must park their cars. It takes advantage of its large fan base and prestigious football tradition. If Penn State continues to prey on its loyal fans, some may not stay loyal much longer.

Besides some traffic issues on game days there is no problem with the way things are. Maybe they should adopt the motto, "If it isn't broken, don't fix it."

University officials should find money in other ways, not by preying on the fans that make Beaver Stadium one of the toughest places to play.

Kelly Swift
freshman-architectural engineering

Wanted: Web Intern

The Collegian is seeking a web intern for the fall semester to join its award-winning web team. This position offers a merit-based \$1,000 scholarship per semester.

We are diving into several new web initiatives this fall including a brand new website, and are looking for applicants with a working knowledge of HTML, CSS and proficiency in at least one of the following: Javascript, Flash, PHP, Perl, ASPnet, or C#. We are also looking into mobile applications, as well, so a knowledge of or interest in learning about mobile development is encouraged but not required.

You will be working with the Web Editor, who also has a knowledge of these technologies. This position requires a flexible but steady time commitment. Your responsibilities will vary based on your skills, but could include designing pages and/or interactive pieces for our site, writing scripts to parse and reformat old stories or communicate with public APIs (Twitter, Tumblr, etc), or designing back-end management systems, among other things.

An interest in journalism and being a part of an independent student newspaper is highly encouraged, as well.

To apply, send a resume and cover letter to Editor in Chief Elizabeth Murphy at editorinchief@psu.collegian.com.

blog lines

FOOTBLOG

What we learned on Day 1

CHICAGO — Joe Paterno has dealt with bowel control problems throughout the summer, causing him to miss three alumni functions.

Paterno spoke noticeably softer and looked weaker than the last time we saw him in April.

He likes the addition of Nebraska but feels really strongly about adding another team from the East. When pressed he brought up the New York market (Rutgers, Syracuse)

Doesn't anticipate health issues to affect preseason preparation or ability to lead the team in the fall.

On coaching future: I haven't given much thought if I want to coach next year, for two years, for five years.

(Big Ten Commissioner) Jim Delany doesn't think Notre Dame is a player for future expansion. Says it's content playing in the Big East and as an independent.

Delany wants a championship game for 2011. He doesn't think agreeing to a long term deal with one venue is logistically possible in the time frame he has...

Delany hopes a nine-game conference schedule is in place by 2013 at the earliest.

The Big Ten will have a new logo design but not name...

Nate Mink
Football editor

EDITOR IN CHIEF

Editor fills in for stuck EIC

In the fourth part in a regular podcast series about the story behind the story, Daily Collegian Editor in Chief Elizabeth Murphy spoke with visual editor Heather Schmelzlen. Schmelzlen took charge of the paper on July 25 after Murphy and the managing editor found themselves stranded in Buffalo. Listen as Schmelzlen talks about sitting in Alex's office for a day.

Elizabeth Murphy
Editor in Chief

Read more of The Daily Collegian's blogs at psu.collegian.com/blogs.