

STADIUM AND TAILGATE PENALTIES

New stadium rules show promise

The university announced last week that it is looking into different means of curbing alcohol-induced rowdy behavior in Beaver Stadium and at tailgate parties.

These include students being subject to a Brethalyzer upon entering a game if they've been ejected in the past, as well as a tighter patrol on tailgate Lots 12 and 13, which are known for out-of-control behavior, police said.

This is a step in the right direction for the uni-

versity in taking control of this problem.

The university needs to start somewhere to commendable football atmosphere that Penn State is known for, and this appears to be a good way to weed out the bad eggs.

But hopefully the university will develop this policy more fully and create a consistent plan to reference.

We believe that rowdy students should be punished, but all punishments

should match the severity of the crime.

Any inconsistency could ruin the university's plan and credibility on this issue.

And if a crackdown on student behavior is enforced, we believe that all alumni who attend games should be held to the same standards. It's no secret that alumni do more than just cook hot dogs at tailgates, so we hope that Penn State Police should treat misbehaving alumni the same way under this new policy.

LETTERS

Football is second to educating

In regards to Tuesday's article "Grad calls for Paterno stadium," Coach Joe Paterno already has a library and a statue named after him. I believe that graduate Warren Armstrong wanting to honor Penn State football coach Paterno is admirable. But to rename Beaver Stadium to Joe Paterno Field, in my opinion, is being disrespectful to James Beaver. If Paterno is to be honored with an edifice being named in his honor, it should be largest and best educational building on campus, not a football field. Coach Paterno is an educator first, and I think even the coach believes that being a benefactor and coach are secondary to his ability to teach young men and women.

Thomas M. Kupchinsky
Class of 1969

Joe Paterno field wouldn't stick

Talk of this has been going back and forth for a few years now, and I just don't see it happening. What would we call it, Joe Paterno Field at Beaver Stadium? Think about Medlar Field at Lubrano Park. Who calls it that? It's too long and after a while, people just omit one of the names (sorry, Lubrano). I don't see the name Beaver Stadium being redacted. It is as much a part of Penn State tradition as are the jerseys, Paternoville and tailgating. Where would it end? Would we call Rec Hall, Russ Rose Court at Rec Hall? Sanderson Mat and Rose Court at Rec Hall? Plus, doesn't it seem like a small 120 yard patch of grass isn't gratifying enough for the best coach college football has ever seen?

If Joe were to read all this (we all know he doesn't read his own headlines), he would push it all away. He would rather the university build a building of academic excellence in his honor. Besides, sports should always take a back seat to academics. Without this belief, all of his successes wouldn't have occurred.

Russ Beck
senior-security and risk analysis

Holistic welfare system needed

In Tuesday's letter "Economy warrants welfare," Valerie Clark asked for a solution to the economic problems that "warrant" a welfare state, so I'll offer one.

First and foremost, I don't think that anyone is proposing the immediate elimination of all social welfare programs in this country. I think most taxpayers want to see a change in the way the government administers these programs.

Instead of simply giving unemployed people a check each month, give them actual help — help them find jobs and help employers hire them. If the government would stop setting up new hoops for employers to jump through, it would be a lot easier for them to hire new employees. When employers get hit with a massive increase in overhead courtesy of the health care bill, it makes it tough for them to retain their employees, let alone hire new ones. When they know their taxes are going to increase, they have to tighten their belts.

As for welfare, the idea is the same: help people help themselves. It's the old "give a man a fish" vs. "teach a man to fish" debate. We're giving people fish when we should be teaching them how to fish. Spend the money up front to get these people the help they need to become independent again, and they'll never need to ask for another penny.

These programs should only ever offer handouts to people who truly cannot provide for themselves, mentally or physically.

Jim DeLancey
Class of 2008

Personal pursuits benefit all

In Tuesday's letter, "U.S. balances greed, charity," Garrett Evans argues that self interest and charity are mutually exclusive, which they are not. In raising healthy children or giving to charity, I may be satisfying the interests of others, but I am certainly satisfying my own as well. It would be naive to assume that people engage in charity merely out of an altruistic desire to help the public interest. Just take a quick stroll around campus and look at the names of some of the buildings.

I am curious to hear how Mr. Evans' proposes building this "beautiful, harmonious and efficient society" without the engine of "selfish" interest driving the economy and giving us the standard of living we enjoy. In a free economy, those who work for their own interest also work for the welfare of society as a whole.

Buying a new flashy car, in addition to satisfying the selfish desires of the consumer, supports the employment of thousands of workers. Is this not as much as a public good as direct charity? Therefore, we should be proud of the pursuit of our own interests in this country, whether materialistic or philanthropic, for both serve to benefit us all in the end.

Kal Kaapro
graduate-law

blog lines

EXPOSURE

Views from New Mexico

Cimarron, New Mexico is an average small town by most standards. It has a high school, a gas station, and even a small restaurant known as the "Cree-Mee-Drive-In" (though it does not feature any sort of drive-in at all).

Andrew Dunheimer
Senior photographer

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THE DAILY Collegian

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Letters

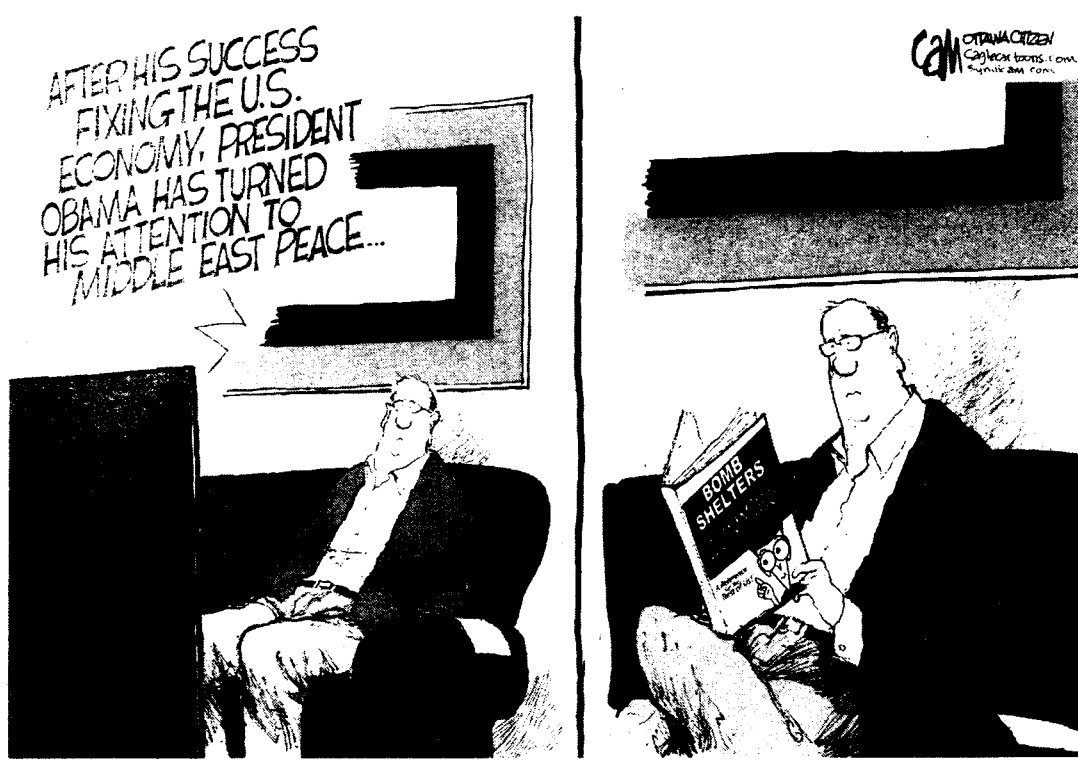
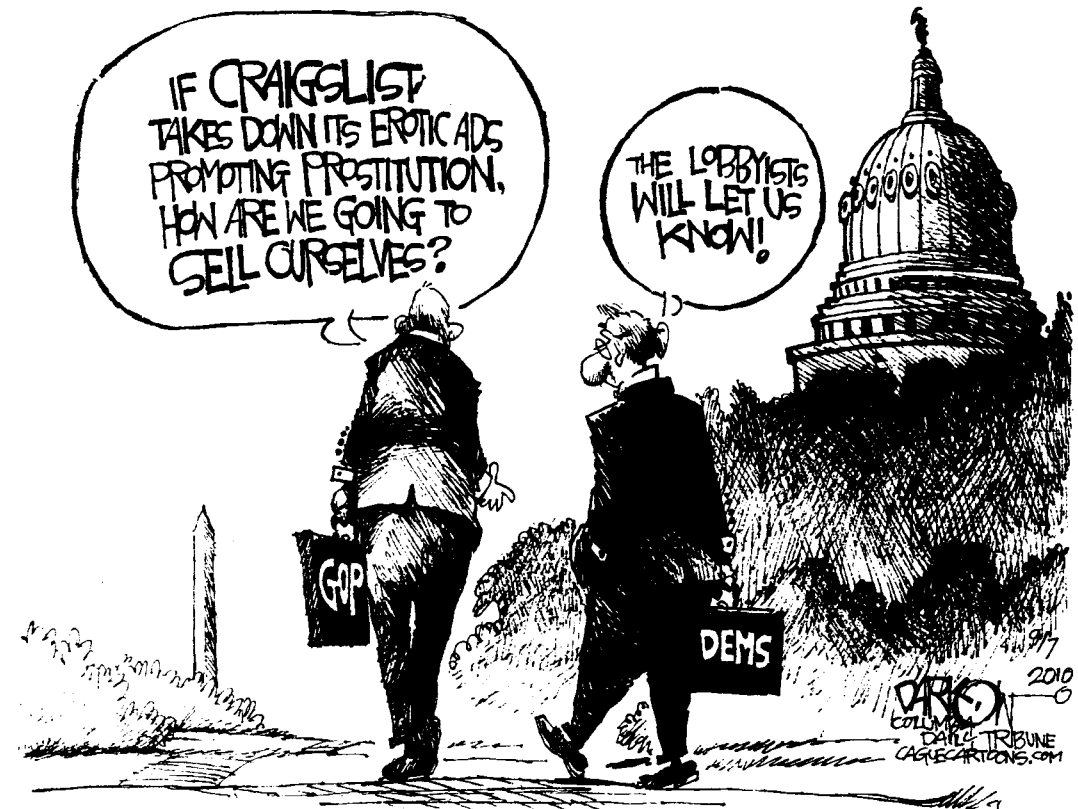
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Section shift will affect next season

By Jessica Uzar

I didn't realize how upset I was about the student section shift proposed for next season until I walked into the stadium last Saturday afternoon.

I had great seats for my first game as an upperclassman. Then as I looked around, I remembered that next year — for my senior year — I might be stuck high in a nosebleed section of the stadium.

The shift of the student section in 2011 will take away the prime 50-yard-line seats that were a part of the junior and senior section in order to open them to the public — mostly alumni.

This leads me to wonder who the athletic department values more: current Penn State students or returning alumni?

That's a tough call. But changing the location of the student section makes a statement about which group is more important when it comes to football tickets.

Students will be moved to the other side of the current underclassmen section. Since freshman year, I have been looking forward to getting some of the best seats in the stadium. And now my senior year, I'll be moved right back to where I started.

Yes, they're adding 800 student seats and another gate for students to enter. So that should

make up for it right?

I don't think so. I understand that football — even at the college level — is also a business that needs to make money to operate. Giving those 50-yard-line seats to alumni, who make much more money than the average student, will bring more revenue to the program. Especially since football and basketball are the only two sports that make a profit at this school, as was reported by the Collegian last year, and the two basically pay for the other 27 varsity teams we have.

But taking away benefits from the students and giving them to those who can afford to pay much more money is not a fair solution. Students are the reason Penn State is such a well-known football school. Blue-and-white students grow into blue-and-white alumni who keep coming back year after year to watch the games or simply tailgate outside their favorite stadium.

Penn State students already have one of the highest student season football ticket prices around.

Ohio State, University of Michigan and University of Iowa students paid around \$150 for their student tickets this year. University of Illinois tickets are a low \$80, University of Florida tickets are about \$70 and Indiana University comes in at just \$30 — the price of a single game here, according to the schools' ticketing websites.

Other schools are also sizably expanding their student sections. There will be about 2,000 more Alabama students this



MY OPINION