

Letters to the Editor

Confused

As usual, Jen Flanagan's column confuses me. Last week she wrote, "I am...strongly opposed to censorship" and "because of my position on censorship, I will protect the rights of anyone to say anything..."

Several paragraphs after trumpeting this unconditional devotion to the first amendment, she qualified her commitment: "Freedom of speech becomes a confusing and highly debatable subject when it enters the area of civil rights...Having to make a decision between [freedom of speech and civil rights], I would...side with civil rights."

So, does Jen Flanagan believe in freedom of speech or not? Next week's column should announce her unshakable belief in both mutually exclusive sides of still another issue. Stan Fish would be proud.

Jeremy Sutch
Fifth semester
Mathematics

we were talking about algebra, not geometry, but that's not my point. "Well-rounded" sounds like something a beach ball or tomato should be, not a student, don't you think? Hoon-es-ty, if I'm a broadcasting major, when in the future will I ever use algebra for my job?

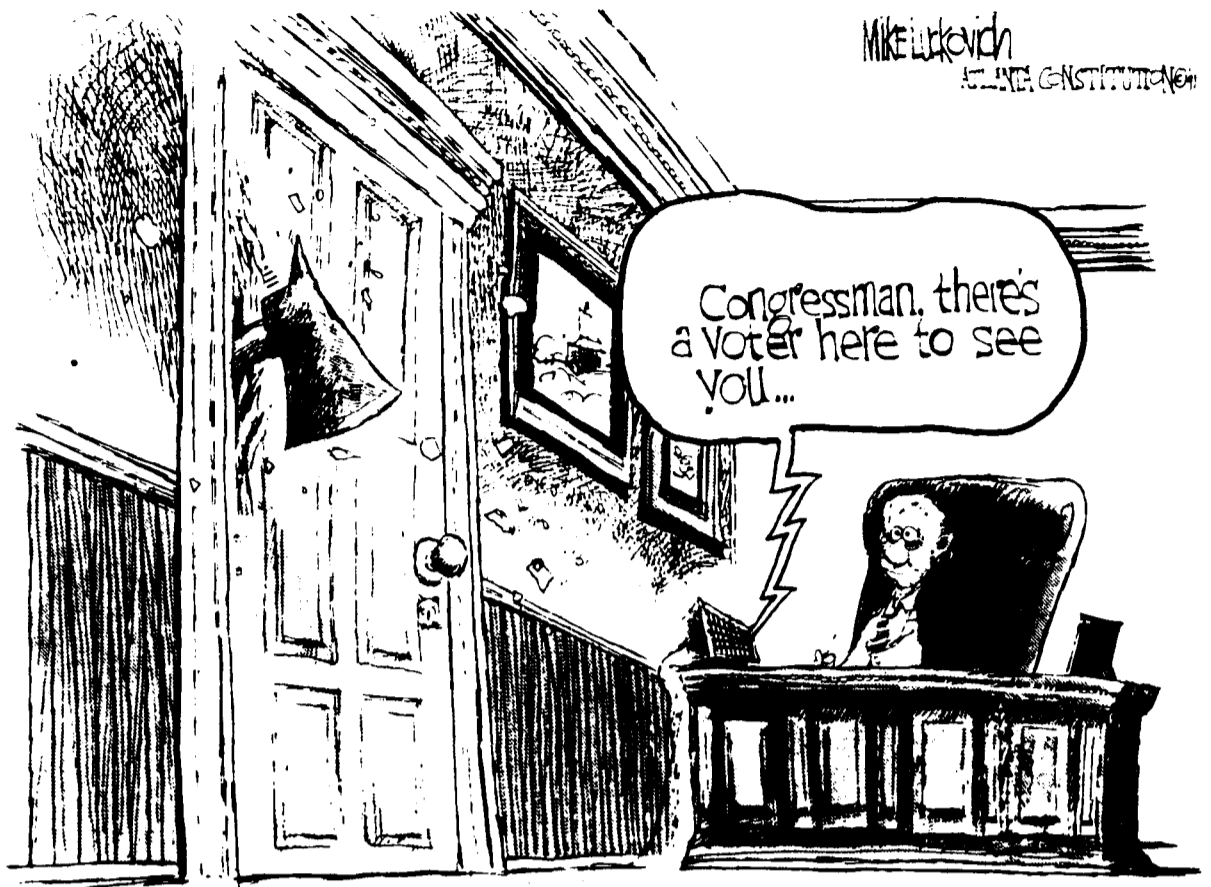
Here's the scene I live in constant fear of seeing happen. Vince is working as DJ in California, making twenty big bucks an hour. Suddenly his boss erupts into the radio room! "Vince!" exclaims he. "You simply must help me factor the cube root of this number! You never had Algebra! Well, what good are you? You're FIRED!" And of course we all know this stands such a great chance of happening.

Another recent monkey-wrench thrown into our scheduling machine is the "phys. ed." requirement change. I guess the phrase that actually works here is, "If it ain't broke, don't fix it." I honestly do not comprehend why this was changed. What happens for many now is that there is a 1/2 less credit could be taking of something else.

Then Penn State's newly instituted surprise was revealed to me--watch everyone--because coming next semester to an "Esact" class near you will be 1/2 instructors! Yes, it makes sense, it's absolutely true and it's just for a limited time only! Now every "Esact" class will have, in addition to its regular instructors, 1/2 instructors with the topside only of a human. Rumors still abound at this point about what their bottom half will be. I personally like the theory that these 1/2 instructors will have a beach ball from the waist down. This will make them useful and (here comes the buzzword--ready, kiddies?) well-rounded. You couldn't ask for more!

And as for scheduling itself, it's always a constant problem. Why we have 20 sections of some courses and one section of others is simply reprehensible. And some courses are even locked in the dreaded "when will it return?" room. I'm sure you've heard of this room The senior who needs one of those courses to graduate is well acquainted with it. Many seniors every semester can be heard to exclaim, "I#*" as they now have to stay an extra semester or two! What luck, huh?

And finally, while we're on the subject of "need," don't forget about the student who waits in



line to be told that a course they desperately need is filled! Why-oh-why does this "accident" constantly occur? Shouldn't a student who needs, say, psych 408, be given priority over just anyone taking it? A myriad of questions like this arise while you're stuck in the waiting line.

At last I've finally figured out all the answers to these questions, though! It seems our friends in the administration areas do claim they're preparing us for the real world. Well, I finally realize why some seniors are actually terrified to graduate! Think about it, gang, if we have all kinds of problems in the real world like we have scheduling, we'll be inclined to stay here in college longer.

Or maybe we could all drop out and work at McDonald's. Flipping hamburgers? Hm ... maybe, that will help make us "well-rounded."

Vince Smith
Sixth semester
Broadcast

Disgusted

After looking at the front page of the November 7, 1991 issue of *The Collegian* a feeling of disgust swept through me. Not

only did the highlighted "Pretty Women" picture show where the priorities of this newspaper lie, but also diminished the true feature story of the week, American Pictures.

American Pictures illustrated what should be the concern of this country through the media of powerful photography. Therefore, a photo from this emotion provoking events, rather than the shallow judgment of other human

beings should have taken precedence on the front page.

Perhaps in the future the newspaper will take into account the academic emphasis of our university and reflect that in this publication.

Michelle Glover
Third semester
English

Well-rounded

I remember saying when I left Edinboro for Behrend, quote: "I will no longer have to put up with taking classes I don't need, long scheduling lines, and/or other scheduling difficulties."

Hmm...Does the phrase (Just a bit of an understatement) "That was then, this is now" ring a bell? If I have to deal with one more semester of taking courses like Basket weaving 101 or Conventional Eskimo, (does this sound familiar?), I may just drop out to work full-time at McDonald's. At least then I know what I'll be doing, and when, without major problems. And the problems? Well, one small "faux pas" on Penn State's part is the requirements needed for entrance to a major.

I personally am unfortunate enough to not have taken algebra (also known as "Satan's final torture") in high school. So I am "provisional" and get the lucky choice of scheduling last every semester until I'm done with algebra. What's the point here?

The college's interesting argument is that it's trying to make me--what was the word they used? Oh, yes--"well-rounded." Well now, I thought

How about some mail?

If you would like to voice your views on an issue, why not write a Letter to the Editor?

The Collegian encourages letters on news coverage, editorial content or University affairs.

Letters should be typewritten, double-spaced and signed by no more than two persons.

Letters should be no longer than 400 words and should

include the semester and major of the writer. All letters should provide the address and phone number of the writer for verification of the letter.

The Collegian reserves the right to edit letters for length and to reject letters if they are libelous or do not conform to standards of good taste. All submitted letters become property

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Letters should be submitted to *The Collegian* office, first floor of the Reed Union Building or *The Collegian* mailbox located in the SGA suite also on the first floor of the Reed Building no later than noon on the Tuesday prior to the desired publication date.

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