

Listen up Campus laws 'ridiculous'

Editor:

It seems that quite often the people we might expect to be the most inclined to want to teach us respect for the law are the ones that do the most to make them appear ridiculous. This university and its administrators are an excellent example.

Some guys take their clothes off and run through a girls' dorm area shouting. This violates one or two administrators' ideas of what is moral or decent, not to mention some state law, and a number of young men find themselves on conduct probation with the threat of being kicked out of school. Admittedly, streaking is probably a sort of immature thing to do, it may disturb some people's study, but I've seen much more disturbing things go on in the dorms with the worst punishment being a speech on the virtues of being a "Good Ag." It hardly seems to be the sort of thing to mark a person for life for.

There is also the fact that liquor is almost openly allowed in the dorms. It is prohibited in the rule book, but it would be a near impossible job for the University to enforce it. We might guess that the rule is still with us because the administration is made up of people that don't want to be thought of as having condoned liquor on campus in any way. So, the rule stays because these people have such a high opinion of themselves and of what this institution should be, but they don't even try to enforce it.

Finally, there is the parking situation. A student with a sticker will get harassed by the police department's computer even after he's paid the fines. However, if someone doesn't have a sticker gets a ticket, all he has to do is tear it up because the police never track him down. In fact, I have seen cars with stickers get ticketed while nothing happens to a car without one. The impression one gets is that for obeying the law and putting out the money for a sticker the results are that one becomes subject to the penalties which the people who don't buy the stickers are subjected to.

I, personally, would like to see more respect for the law, but I can't see how anyone could expect that when the laws don't function. Laws should meet some definite need; do we need to be protected from streakers? Laws should be enforceable; could anyone be expected to enforce the rules against alcohol, or even drugs, effectively? Laws must be enforced if they are good laws and if they aren't then we should seriously consider doing away with them.

Greg Smith

Your Man at Batt

by Greg Moses

Section 50 of University Regulations notes an appeals process for those suspended for disciplinary reasons by the Vice President for Student Services. The process is detailed in Appendix II of the "blue book" (which is orange and white this year).

There is also an appeals process for those given lesser penalties (conduct probation) for disciplinary reasons. The Dean of Men, Charles Powell, normally handles discipline cases, so the appeals would logically come before his boss, Dr. John Koldus, vice president of student services.

Koldus may then decide whether he will handle the appeal personally, or refer it to a review board set up by student services. "The board handles various appeals," says J. M. Southerland, Koldus's assistant. "For instance, it sometimes handles complaints from students who feel they have been discharged for damages to their rooms." Although Southerland could not remember an appeal for disciplinary action, he said the review board may be used for such cases.

Overcrowded courts

DeWare Field House opens for weekend activities at 7 a.m. This makes one basketball court available to student use which becomes overcrowded and leaves an overflow of basketball buffs without indoor facilities.

G. Rollie White Coliseum offers a relief with a total of three indoor courts, but the doors are shut until 1 p.m. Steve Kwan, a senior mechanical engineering major, asked why the coliseum was not available in the morning and what could be done about it.

Emil Mamaliga, professor of health and physical education, coordinates the hours of the coliseum's operation. "We are aware of the problems," he says. "I was young once and realize what it is like to have nothing to do on Saturday morning. But the budgetary aspects prevent us from opening the coliseum on weekend mornings." He says he does not have enough personnel to supervise the coliseum at these hours. "It's not a matter of merely opening the doors," says Mamaliga. "There has to be someone there to police the coliseum and check against vandalism."

Is there a solution in sight? "I don't see how the hours can be changed this semester," says Mamaliga. He has his operating budget for this fiscal year and he can't afford the change in hours. But, he says, the problem has been noticed and perhaps something can be worked out later.

Gas problems

Steve Blum, a senior in animal science, would like to warn students of the hidden costs of home heating gas. He was charged 33 cents per gallon for gas already in the tank when he moved in. When he moved out he was given 10 cents per gallon for the 137 gallons left in the tank.

A customer will be charged the market price for gas said a spokesman for the gas company; when asked about the 10 cent reimbursement, the spokesman said she didn't know about that.

Mary Wharton of the Better Business Bureau said the government sets a minimum fee that the gas companies must pay back. The minimum fee is 10 cents per gallon, she said.

The Battalion

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by Jim Earle



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