Censorship and Control of the University Student Newspaper: Case Studies

Elizabeth A. Minden

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CENSORSHIP AND CONTROL
OF THE UNIVERSITY STUDENT
NEWSPAPER: 17 CASE STUDIES

BY
ELIZABETH A. MINDEN

A thesis submitted in partial fulfillment
of the requirements for the degree
Master of Science
Major in Journalism
South Dakota State University
1986
CENSORSHIP AND CONTROL
OF THE UNIVERSITY STUDENT
NEWSPAPER: 17 CASE STUDIES

This thesis is approved as a creditable and independent investigation by the candidate for the degree, Master of Science, and is acceptable for meeting thesis requirements for this degree. Acceptance of this thesis does not imply that the conclusions reached by the candidate are necessarily the conclusions of the major department.

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Censorship and prior restraint of college student newspapers is a recognized problem. A First Amendment case heard by a federal court in Alabama involved the suspension of a college newspaper editor over the right to publish a controversial editorial. Although other cases involving student press freedoms had been heard prior to the Dickey case, it marked a turning point. The outcome favored the editor's right to publish the editorial without prior administrative approval. However, subsequent court decisions involving First Amendment student press rights have varied.

Even though case outcomes have been inconsistent, precedent has been established that protects college newspapers from censorship or prior restraint. Restraint or control of the college student newspaper is prohibited if such action occurs outside of the restricted areas of obscenity, threats to national security, incitement to riot and substantial disruption or material interference with school activities.

According to Robert L. Trager and Donna L. Dickerson, authors of *College Student Press Law*,

(4)Colleges are under no affirmative obligation to establish student publications, but once such publications are established, administrative actions must be guided by the First and Fourteenth Amendments.
More than 330 colleges and universities throughout the United States offer degrees or programs in journalism. All of these colleges and universities have student newspapers.\(^5\)

The student newspaper is one of the most common vehicles for college-educated journalists to receive their initial news-editorial experiences. The roles student newspaper advisers, college administrators, journalism departments, college student governments and college publications boards play in college newspaper management are important because most professional American newspapers prefer to employ college-educated journalists for their news-editorial staffs.\(^6\)

According to Melvin Mencher, professor of journalism at Columbia University, to make the student newspaper a bona fide educational experience for training future journalists as well as a forum for campus opinion and news, the college or university must ensure the campus press is free. To help ensure this freedom, the college or university should provide adequate financing and employ a competent educator-journalist as the paper's adviser.\(^7\)

To determine how college student newspapers may be censored or controlled, the researcher decided to examine several university newspapers in the United States. The study investigated the role and function of the college newspaper relative to the campus community; its position in the organizational structure of the university; its relationship to various groups of the campus community; and its internal organizational system.
Specific elements guiding the study were:

1. The newspaper's relationship to the university's administration
2. The newspaper's relationship to the journalism program
3. The newspaper's relationship to the publications board
4. The newspaper's relationship to the student governing body
5. The newspaper's relationship to the adviser
6. The newspaper's funding source(s)
7. The newspaper's listed publisher

The next chapter explores the role and function of the campus press. The college newspaper's problems with censorship and arbitrary control will also be examined.
ENDNOTES


3 Thomas Eveslage, "Media censorship is alive on the college campus," College Press Review 22 (Fall 1982):11.

4 College Student Press Law, cited by Thomas Eveslage, "Media censorship is alive on the college campus," College Press Review 22 (Fall 1982):35.


6 Debra Gersh, "Insight into journalism graduates," Editor & Publisher 119 (February 22, 1986):14.

Chapter 2

REVIEW OF THE LITERATURE

Some of my colleagues believe I should make all content decisions and edit copy prior to publication ... Although I believe the adviser's takeover as editor of a campus publication is educationally indefensible, I suspect many teachers silently assume editorial control of campus newspapers that are widely advertised as "student publications."1

Jan Rawson, adviser to the Citrus College Clarion in 1979, reflects in the above statements the attitudes and administrative positions of many university newspaper advisers.

In the same article, Rawson quoted Bill Kamrath, an adviser at El Camino Community College in California at the time she wrote. Kamrath's philosophy of his role as an adviser advocated a much more stringent First Amendment viewpoint toward the student press. A letter from Kamrath to Rawson said that

(1)ike you, I am horrified by many of the errors (in student newspapers). I think that our great strength rests in the fact that we are able to allow them to exist and see the light of print. When we no longer are able to do this, we will no longer be doing the job we are paid to do.2

Carol Edmonds, another student publications adviser, stated that she read all copy prior to publication, "... but never to violate the students' constitutional rights to freedom of the press, never to censor."3 She regarded one of the major functions of her role as adviser to be
... an ambassador for the newspaper to the administration and the community. The ... President, whose academic background is political science, has a strong sense of the need for a free press, so we don't worry about censorship. However, we do want to encourage him to adopt our budget requests, because one-half of our funding comes from student fees and the other half from advertising.4

Review of the literature suggested that the adviser's role in the management of the university newspaper is not the only element to be considered when arbitrary control and censorship are involved. Review of the literature suggested these points for consideration:

1. The role and function of college newspapers
2. Court cases and incidents involving censorship and control of the college newspaper
3. The college newspaper relative to the university's organizational structure

The Role and Function of College Newspapers

The literature suggests that the role and function of a college newspaper vary from campus to campus. According to Frank Deaver, professor of journalism at the University of Alabama,

The role of a student newspaper on a college or university campus has never been defined with consistency, and it probably never will be. In a society where the press, both professional and student, is expected to be anything but monolithic, that is perhaps as it should be.5

However, the basic roles and functions of the student newspaper outlined most often in the literature were:
1. To provide a training ground for future journalists
2. To provide campus news and information
3. To provide a watch-dog function for the campus community

The literature also suggested student newspapers were "classified" by their college communities. Depending upon the viewpoint of each group on campus, the paper was considered to be:

1. An administrative house organ
2. A medium for faculty publicity
3. A student government house organ
4. The exclusive property of journalism majors
5. The journalism program's private laboratory for training journalism students

Although university newspapers tend to view themselves as "normal community newspapers" in role and function, much of the literature suggests that the special nature of the campus community and, by extension, the college newspaper, requires a different classification. The suggestion is that the university campus is not structured along the same lines as a conventional American community, so the requirements of the professional press to meet the demands of a free society do not extrapolate to the university press.

The Commission on the Freedom of the Press formulated five requirements of the professional press. These requirements are necessary, according to the commission, for the press to fulfill its
"... responsibility of providing the current intelligence needed by a free society. ..." ⁹

These requirements are:

1. A truthful, comprehensive, and intelligent account of the day's events in a context which gives them meaning
2. A forum for the exchange of comment and criticism
3. The projection of a representative picture of the constituent groups in society
4. The presentation and clarification of the goals and values of society
5. Full access to the day's intelligence ¹⁰

The literature suggests that, because of the somewhat authoritarian structure of the university as opposed to the democratic one of American society, the college press is restricted in its ability to fulfill these requirements. The college newspaper is limited by a lack of privilege in source material, by continuity in staffing, and by a disparity in goals and values between the university and normal communities. ¹¹

Increasingly, some college newspapers have attempted to more perfectly incorporate into their philosophies the requirements of the professional press by disassociating themselves from the university community. These newspapers have sought independence from university sponsorship for a variety of reasons, but underlying many of the
decisions to "go independent" is the desire "to attain a free and unfettered press . . . ." 12

Opinions vary among journalism educators and university newspapers as to the effectiveness "going independent" has in defining the role and function of the college newspaper. Opinions also vary among members of these two groups as to the extent to which a college newspaper not independent of the university benefits or loses by staying on campus and "within" the college community. However, many journalism educators seem to feel that, in order to circumvent "(p)roblems surrounding administrative pressures, control and censorship, . . . . independence for student publications, particularly the student newspaper," is a good move. 13

Court Cases and Incidents Involving Censorship and Control of College Newspapers

Several court cases, including Dickey v. Alabama, have established legal precedent against censorship and control of the college student press. In the Dickey case, the thrust of the ruling against Troy State University President Ralph Adams was not aimed primarily at the issue of prior restraint, although Dr. Adams had instituted a rule against the student newspaper publishing any criticism of Alabama's elected officials. The Dickey case focused on the Fourteenth Amendment's guarantee of due process. 14

The court's ruling in favor of Editor Gary Dickey also focused on the upset of the balance between reasonable rules and regulations
established for maintaining order in a public institution and the basic principles guaranteed by the United States Constitution for freedom of academic and political expression.\textsuperscript{15}

In \textit{Antonelli v. Hammond}, heard by a United States District Court in Massachusetts, the ruling in favor of John Antonelli, editor of the Fitchburg State College \textit{Cycle}, stemmed from the college president's refusal to fund the \textit{Cycle} unless the staff consented to prior review of the newspaper's content by an advisory board the president had created.\textsuperscript{16} Not only was the advisory board virtually unlimited in its powers, but there were no procedural safeguards instituted for appeal of any ruling made by the board. The court found this to be "an unconstitutional exercise of state power."\textsuperscript{17}

A similar situation arose at Florida Atlantic University in 1973. The university president, Dr. Kenneth Williams, fired three of the student editors of the \textit{Atlantic Sun} for printing a series of articles critical of the institution's administration. Williams also turned the paper into a "house organ" by publishing the paper using his own administrative personnel.\textsuperscript{18}

In the federal suit that followed, Judge Joe Eaton ruled that ". . . where there is evidence that suspension of a student newspaper editor was based on a desire to control content, the suspension is in violation of the First Amendment."\textsuperscript{19}

Problems involving adviser control of college newspaper content were the basis for the United States District Court suit of \textit{Trujillo v. Love}.\textsuperscript{20} Because Southern Colorado State College's
student newspaper, the Arrow, had been subsumed under the mass communication department's advisership as an "instructional tool," the paper's managing editor, Dorothy Trujillo, was suspended for printing a "controversial" cartoon and editorial. The function of the newspaper had been changed from student forum to laboratory tool.

However, the court found that the change had not been "...put into effect with sufficient clarity and consistency to alter the function of the newspaper." The court, ruling in Trujillo's favor, stated that

No advice or help was extended to the Arrow staff either directly or in journalism classes. No standards were promulgated until after the (controversial) edition had been unilaterally altered and even then staff members were only put on warning that they must secure approval for "controversial" material.

The college newspaper adviser's equivocal status within the campus organizational structure is illustrated by an incident which occurred at Lansing (Michigan) Community College in 1975. Combining the role of editor-in-chief with that of adviser, officials at the college appointed an administrator as the adviser/editor of The Lookout, the campus newspaper. Administrators also created a new student publications policy known as "Career Integrity," which vested...

...authority and control over the content of The Lookout... with the editor-in-chief in consultation with a publications advisory board. The board is composed of three faculty members, three student leaders, the director of student activities—who is an administrator—and the editor-in-chief.
As in the case of the editors of the Atlantic Sun at Florida Atlantic University, a former student editor—supported by a vote of the student government—appealed not only to the publications advisory board, but also appealed to the college's board of trustees "that placing an administrator in the position of editor (of The Lookout) was in fact a mechanism for censorship by the college administration."\textsuperscript{25}

The appeal process avoided a First Amendment suit and produced an ad hoc committee which presented its findings to the board of regents in May of 1976. The committee recommended that:

1. A student editor appointed by the publications board be solely responsible for The Lookout's content
2. The board retain the right of prior restraint on any material presenting a clear and present danger of disrupting normal campus activity
3. The board be composed of three students, three faculty, one professional journalist and the director of student activities
4. The board have the authority "to determine the function of the newspaper, approve and review the newspaper's editorial policies"
5. Administration censorship of the student newspaper by:
a. Student disciplinary measures for printing
critical/controversial matter

b. Arbitrary removal of the editor
c. Arbitrary suppression of student-written
articles
d. Abolition of the newspaper in its
current form should not be tolerated

6. Specific appeals guidelines for grievances be instigated

One of the more recent and well-publicized cases involving
censorship of the college press occurred at Baylor University in 1980.
The editors of the Lariat, Baylor's student newspaper, became
embroiled in an editorial control battle with Judge Abner V. McCall,
Baylor's president.27

Wrangling over the right to publish articles, editorials and
cartoons about a proposed visit to Baylor's campus by Playboy magazine
to photograph coeds for one of its issues, McCall

... ordered the Lariat to cease printing any "promotional"
stories for Playboy, and any expressions of ideas
contradictory to Baptist doctrines. As chief executive
officer of Baylor, he said, he would determine policies for
the student newspaper.28

Journalism Department Head Loyal Gould had reorganized the
student newspaper into a learning laboratory for journalism students
after assuming the chairmanship in 1974.29
Because he had turned the paper into a laboratory tool, Gould was subsequently enmeshed in the dispute. Pressure from the administration caused him to send

... a strongly worded letter to Ralph Strother, faculty adviser to the Lariat, instructing him to order students to submit editorials to Strother in advance for review. "This is not a suggestion," the letter concluded. "It is a direct order."30

When the battle finally ended, Strother had covertly deleted two lines from a student editorial just prior to printing because, "he explained, (it) was done 'for the students' own good' and because he thought the remarks were unprofessional."31

The College Newspaper and the Campus Community

The censorship problem at Baylor focused on many aspects of First Amendment freedoms applicable to the student newspaper. The incident involved not only the administration and the student staff members, but also the journalism department, other students and faculty, and the newspaper adviser (a journalism department faculty member).

Ultimately, the question of student press censorship as represented by the dilemma at Baylor appears to be a clash among differing views about the nature and function of a college newspaper. Campus administrators, advisers, publications boards, journalism departments and student governments view the college newspaper from different perspectives.
Advisers

The literature suggests an adviser's perspective of a college newspaper is the most complex.

Karen Bosley, adviser to the Ocean County College Viking News, described the complexities of the newspaper's relationship to the campus community and her role as adviser:

My responsibility to the faculty, administration, and community is... difficult to carry out ... The tendency of our faculty is to think that because the paper carries my name as adviser, it is my newspaper ... My role is more difficult with the administration because prior to becoming a member of the faculty and the adviser to the student newspaper ..., an unconstitutional editorial policy was adopted which prescribed that while the adviser was not to act as sponsor, he or she was to see all copy in advance of publication.

On the other hand, an adviser at Del Mar College (Corpus Christi, Texas) outlined his reasons for rewriting the student publications policy to appoint himself editor of the student newspaper. The adviser, Bill Nesbitt, felt that student editors for the newspaper

... were always newcomers to a complicated campus environment, with many new names they didn't know, a physical layout they sometimes never learned and in many cases a limited high/schoolish (sic) approach to news coverage.

Nesbitt also felt the quality of editors during his adviser'ship had deteriorated, and that he "... was helping the poor ones to such an extent that (he) already felt the newspaper was faculty-edited."
Nesbitt added that, because of the policy revision, a few good students were hired by the journalism department each semester. He felt the change had worked well because copy was sent to the printer on schedule, the papers were delivered promptly, and the editor was competent: "Hardly anyone questions why there isn't a student editor."

Mencher believes this sort of adviser is far from unique on college campuses. He thinks the university administrative organization plays a role in creating a newspaper structured around an authoritarian adviser. The adviser controls the newspaper on the one hand, but is subservient to the administration on the other:

The current practice of drafting a young man (as newspaper adviser) from the public relations division or the English Department usually leads to a mediocre newspaper. Most of these men are junior faculty members, untenured and underpaid, and thus unwilling to devote time to an activity that cannot advance them but can impede them.

According to Mencher, this state of affairs leads such advisers to stick close to the administration to "stay out of hot water" even though some of these advisers are advocates of First Amendment freedoms for the student press.

According to a 1969 survey of small college newspapers conducted by Bruce Dudley, only six percent of those colleges responding to the questionnaire did not have an adviser. Dudley also found that "... the role of the adviser in the production of the newspaper varied widely from campus to campus..." with over half
the advisers regularly exercising prior review of the newspapers' contents. 38

Administrators

While the small college survey showed over half the advisers exercising prior review, it also indicated that 28 percent of the staff surveyed said that a non-student staff member had "... stopped publication of, or forced significant changes to be made in, an item in their newspaper ... ." 39

As shown earlier, college administrators often exercise control over student newspapers in the mistaken belief that the student press "... is responsible to the University and its welfare, character and aims" instead of responsible to all its readers. 40

Responsibility is a key issue in the relationship between the college press and administrators, according to the literature. The United States Student Press Association—which is composed of student journalists—formulated a code of ethics defining the freedoms and responsibilities of the student press. The code, passed by a unanimous vote of the third annual National Student Press Congress in 1964, outlined many of the points found in the requirements formulated by the Commission on Freedom of the Press. 41

However, administrative concerns relative to the college newspaper still seem to focus on "responsibilities" and "proper standards." Ted Phillips, a member of the board of regents of
Seminole (Oklahoma) Junior College, introduced a motion to establish guidelines for the college's paper during the November 1985 regents' meeting. The basis of his motion was an editorial printed in the student newspaper, the Collegian, which criticized the behavior of board members—and Phillips in particular—at their meetings.  

Jeff Cox, the Collegian's adviser, knew the editorial would be controversial because he checked it for libel before it was published. Even though the editorial was not libelous, it contained offensive references to Phillips, which prompted the regent's motion to establish some guidelines for the paper: "We need to set some guidelines so Cox will know how to publish this thing, so his students will know what is in line and what is out of line."  

Offensive language in an article about Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) in the Pace Press at Pace University (New York City) caused such a furor on the campus, the administration broke the constitutional rules it had formulated for the newspaper and shredded all 3,000 copies of the November 14, 1985, issue. Brian Sookram, the editor-in-chief who approved the article, was also forced to resign his position.  

Although acknowledging the language in the article was offensive, Pace Press Managing Editor Roman Brice said that in the future the newspaper is "going to make a real major problem for them (the administration) and follow journalistic ethics" instead of the rules set down by administrators."
Emmanuel E. Paraschos, chairman of the department of journalism at the University of Arkansas (Little Rock), is an administrator, a journalism faculty member and a college newspaper adviser. He brings a unique perspective to the relationships between the student newspapers and administrators, advisers, journalism departments and other elements of the campus community:

I do not demand to see anything before publication, but the student journalists know that I'm available in case there are any questions. This system perhaps tolerates more mistakes in the beginning, but I feel it cultivates something more important: a feeling of professional responsibility on the part of the students who know there is no "professor" between themselves and their public. They mature faster this way into professionalism and there is no aura of "censorship" around. 46

Paraschos sees his role of adviser to be a "buffer" between the university administration—which he considers to be the publisher—and the student newspaper. As an administrator, he acts as a "catalyst" between the various power elites and pressure groups on campus and the newspaper staff. As a journalism educator, Paraschos feels that the student newspaper "... must be insulated as much as possible from such an awesome and potentially intimidating force." 47

Publications Boards

According to the literature, the trend in management of college newspapers in the last two decades has been away from students newspapers designated as lab papers by journalism programs and papers under the auspices of student affairs, toward newspapers managed by publication boards. Although moving towards publications board
control is often designed to ease censorship problems, the change to publications board systems still occurs with varying degrees of control conflict and censorship problems, "... and involves a variety of student-faculty ratios."

At the University of Texas (Austin), for example, the student newspaper is guided by the policies of the Texas Student Publications Board. The board's policies are collected in a handbook which specifies that an "editorial manager" must read every article and headline before the paper goes to press. The editorial manager, hired directly by the university and having no formal connection with the journalism department, checks for libel, invasion of privacy, obscenity and "poor journalistic practice."

Although the trend is towards publications boards, publications board policies may contribute to arbitrary control or censorship of the student newspaper. At the University of Nebraska at Lincoln, publications board policies regarding advertising in the *Daily Nebraskan* led to court.

A non-discrimination advertising policy established by the board stated the *Daily Nebraskan* could not accept ads specifying "... race, religion, age, disability, marital status or national origin." The policy also stated the *Nebraskan* recognized the right of persons to specify gender in looking for a roommate.

In 1984, then Editor-in-chief Chris Welsch asked the board about publishing ads submitted by students seeking homosexual roommates. The board added "sexual orientation" to the policy and
told Welsch not to run the ads. By the time the new policy was implemented, Welsch had decided to run the ads, but did not because he felt the board would have fired him for going against the policy decision.52

Pam Pearn and Michael Sinn, students wishing to place ads for homosexual roommates, filed suit on the basis that their constitutional rights to the newspaper's public forum were abridged and the question of the constitutionality of the publications board's policy to control editorial decisions. The outcome of the suit is pending.53

Make-up of the publications board was the crux of a control problem at Fort Hays (Kansas) State University in the spring of 1984. The administration had proposed a new publications review board which would have had "... the power to select and dismiss editors and to prepare and approve publication budgets" for both the Leader, the newspaper, and the Reveille, the yearbook.54

Both Jack Jackson, photography instructor in the journalism department, and Vice President of Student Affairs Bill Jellison cited past poor fiscal management as reason to create such a board. However, the journalism department and staffers on both publications strongly disapproved of the proposed composition of the board. The board was to be made up entirely of non-journalism members who had little or no knowledge of First Amendment freedoms and journalism rights and responsibilities.55
The staffs and journalism faculty offered a counter-proposal to Jellison. Reveille Adviser Cynthia Danner also contacted Marc Abrams, Student Press Law Center director, for an opinion supporting opposition to the board. Abrams' response objected to the proposal "... because it would have given the board, rather than the publications themselves, the power to select editors" and would have required them to avoid "'stories which offend good taste, reflect unnecessarily on the standing of the university, or unjustly condemn an individual.'"56

**Journalism Programs**

A study conducted in 1982 by Lillian Lodge Kopenhaver, journalism professor at Florida International University, surveyed members of both the Association of Schools of Journalism and Mass Communication (ASJMC) and the American Society of Journalism School Administrators (ASJSA). The questions involved the relationship between these members' journalism units and the student publications on campus.57

Kopenhaver found that a majority of newspaper advisers at these universities (54.8 percent) were on the journalism or communications department faculty. Study results also indicated that more than two-thirds of these advisers were paid for their advising duties by communications units.58

In addition to the relationship of the adviser to the journalism or communications unit, Kopenhaver's study also showed that
almost two-thirds of the schools responding had more than 150 journalism majors each, while one-fifth had more than 800 students each enrolled in their journalism programs. 59

Although Kopenhaver's study concentrated on the newspaper's relationship to the journalism unit through the adviser—and only addressed the question of censorship indirectly—the study demonstrated the significance of the relationship between journalism units and university student newspapers. According to Kopenhaver, journalism programs impact the quality of the student newspapers through the type of adviser hired, the journalism courses offered, and the student newspaper staffers who are journalism majors. 60

Kopenhaver's study was supported in the literature with the results of Paul Atkins' 1981 study of 80 college daily newspapers. Atkins' study showed that 55 percent of the newspapers surveyed had faculty news advisers. 61

The literature further suggests that "non-students" on the staff of college newspapers are usually connected with the institution's journalism program, but not always. In Dudley's survey of small colleges and universities, the data showed that fewer than half the newspaper staffs surveyed had no connection with a journalism program because of non-student staffing outside the program. 62

**Student Governments**

The most common connection between university student governments and the student newspaper is funding. Prior to 1973,
student newspapers which received funds through student governments were also subject to withdrawal of funding at the pleasure of the governing body.\textsuperscript{63}

However, with the precedent-setting case \textit{Jayne v. Whiting}, the courts have ruled that censorship of constitutionally protected expression under the First Amendment cannot be imposed by withdrawing funds.\textsuperscript{64}

According to the literature, this precedent is generally ignored. For example, in April of 1984 the student government at Salem (Massachusetts) State College voted to freeze the student newspaper's funding. Grounds for the freeze were that "... the paper was not abiding by the school's Constitution, was misusing funds, was not following a fair endorsement policy during campus political races, and was throwing out letters to the editor which differed from the staff's views," according to student government President Gary Fravel.\textsuperscript{65}

However, the student government budget presented to college President James Amsler as a block sum was not approved by either Amsler or Salem's Board of Trustees, which froze funds for all student organizations funded through the student government. The situation was stalemated until a July 1984 meeting between attorneys for the student government and the newspaper.\textsuperscript{66}

According to Fravel, the student government was never trying to dictate editorial policy but was only trying to ensure the paper was a forum for student opinions and met its financial obligations.
The situation was resolved when attorneys agreed to revise the Constitution to include "canons of journalism," some editorial staff job descriptions and a non-discrimination policy clause governing editorial opinion.67

Other examples of student government withdrawing funding included the paper at Northern Illinois University—which lost $30,000 in funds (10 percent of the Northern Star's budget) in 1982 because the Star refused to print "Funded by the Student Association" or "Partially Funded with Student Fees" on the front page of each issue.68

The Exponent, the student newspaper at Northern State College (South Dakota) lost its funding when Northern's student association voted in December 1983 to freeze funds for the paper for spring semester of 1984. Recommendations made by Student Association President Mike McCafferty cited personnel problems, negative editorials, inclusion of "inappropriate material," typographical errors, citation inaccuracies and inadequate news coverage by the Exponent as reasons for freezing funds.69

The funding problem at Northern Illinois' Northern Star has not been resolved, and other issues involving censorship and arbitrary control of the paper have eclipsed the funding problem in importance.70

A threatened lawsuit by the Exponent based on the lack of due process in freezing its funds helped resolve the funding issue at Northern. Adviser David L. Newquist also filed a formal grievance
when he was arbitrarily removed from his advising duties via his July 1984 teaching contract. His subsequent meeting with the president also helped resolve some of the misunderstandings surrounding the *Exponent's* First Amendment rights.  

**Summary**

Review of the literature showed the complexities surrounding the role and function of the college newspaper. The relationships between the college newspaper and its campus publics was also elucidated by the review. Court cases and documented incidents involving censorship and arbitrary control of the campus press illustrated the various reasons and methods for depriving a college newspaper of its First and Fourteenth Amendment rights.

Review of the literature also indicated that censorship and control of the campus press is an on-going issue.

**Development of the Study**

**Basic Assumptions**

A basic assumption of this study was that censorship and arbitrary control of college student newspapers occur on university campuses in the United States.

Another basic assumption of this study was that the complexities of student press relationships to college campus communities create problems of censorship and arbitrary control for university newspapers.
It was also assumed that problems of censorship and arbitrary control create a "chilling effect" on college student journalists in providing "a truthful, comprehensive, and intelligent account of the day's events in a context which gives them meaning," and in providing the other requirements of a free press in a free society. 72

Need for the Study

More comprehensive and up-to-date information about censorship and control of college newspapers was needed.

The most recent studies involving the college newspaper surveyed adviser attitudes toward censorship and the student newspaper's relationship to the journalism unit of the university. These studies were based on results from questionnaires mailed to limited lists of recipients: 200 members of College Media Advisers, and members of the Association of Schools of Journalism and Mass Communication (ASJMC) and the American Society of Journalism School Administrators (ASJSA).

Because of the complexities involving the management structures of college newspapers, a study limited to a mailed survey instrument was inadequate to determine the sources of control and censorship of the campus press. Field research was indicated by the on-going nature of the processes implied by the literature review and the studies mentioned above.
Definition of Terms

Student press or student newspaper. In the context of this study, the term "student press" or "student newspaper" is synonymous with student-produced newspaper at a four-year college or university.

School of journalism. For this study, a "school of journalism" is any college or university journalism or communications program which includes courses of study in reporting, news gathering, editing, photo-journalism, and other news-editorial journalism courses, and which graduates students prepared in these areas of study. For means of clarification, the term is synonymous with "journalism program" and "communications program" in the context of this paper.

College. In the context of this study, the term "college" means any four-year institution of higher education within the United States which awards its graduates at least a bachelor's degree. The term is synonymous with "university" in the context of this study.

Censorship. As defined by court case precedent, the term "censorship" means any method or manner of controlling, dictating, or otherwise manipulating, the editorial content of a university newspaper by anyone other than its editorial staff for purposes which occur outside of the restricted areas of obscenity, threats to national security, incitement to riot and substantial disruption or material interference with school activities.

The next chapter discusses the design and scope of the study. The underlying concepts for the case study approach and the methods for gathering information are also outlined.
ENDNOTES


2 Ibid.


4 Ibid., p. 12.


7 Ibid., p. 6.

8 Ibid., pp. 5-6.


10 Ibid., pp. 21-28.

11 Wilcox, pp. 5-6.


17 Ibid.
21 Ibid.
22 Ibid.
23 Ibid.
25 Ibid.
26 "Student Editorship to be Restored as Michigan School Revises Policy," Press Censorship Newsletter, no. 10 (September-October 1976), p. 133.
28 Ibid., pp. 24-25.
29 Ibid.
30 Ibid., p. 25.
34 Ibid., p. 11.
35 Ibid.

37 Ibid.

38 Bruce M. Dudley, "Control of Small College Student Newspapers," Journalism Quarterly 46 (Spring 1969): 154-156.

39 Ibid., p. 155.


43 Ibid.


45 Ibid., p. 16.


47 Ibid.


50 "Nebraska: UNL classifieds are scrutinized," Student Press Law Center Report 7 (Spring 1986): 18.

51 University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Daily Nebraskan Policy Handbook, no date, p. 16.

52 "UNL classifieds," p. 18.
32

53 Ibid.


55 Ibid.

56 Ibid., p. 28.

57 Kopenhaver, p. 15.

58 Ibid.

59 Ibid.

60 Ibid., p. 16.

61 Atkins, p. 34.


63 Smith, pp. 175-177.

64 Joyner v. Whiting, 477 F. 2d 456 (4th Cir. 1973).


66 Ibid.

67 Ibid.


69 Ibid., p. 29.

70 Ibid., p. 24.

71 Ibid., pp. 29-30.

72 The Commission on Freedom of the Press, p. 20.

73 Eveslage, p. 34.
Chapter 3
DESIGN OF THE STUDY

The purpose of this study was to obtain information about censorship and control of college newspapers from advisers, student editors and staff members, college administrators, university journalism faculty, student newspaper publications board members and other persons involved with the operations of college student newspapers.

The information received from these sources was evaluated in terms of the basic assumptions expressed in Chapter 2 of this study:

1. Censorship and arbitrary control of college student newspapers occur
2. The complexities of the relationships between the college newspaper and its various campus publics create censorship and arbitrary control problems for the paper
3. Censorship and arbitrary control of the campus newspaper create a "chilling effect" on the student staff

In order to serve this purpose, the descriptive survey method was used.

Methods of Gathering Data

A preliminary review of pertinent literature was conducted. Information gained from the preliminary review of the literature provided the basis for the development of a questionnaire.
Questionnaires were mailed to advisers and editors of 337 university newspapers in the United States. Each of these universities had journalism programs.\(^1\)

Results from the analysis of responses to the questionnaires were used to identify 35 university newspapers which had censorship and arbitrary control problems.

Editors and advisers of these 35 university newspapers were contacted by telephone. Of these, 17 university newspapers were selected for visits for personal interviews.

**Data Collection**

A preliminary questionnaire and personal interviews were used in this study. The questionnaire was filled out on an individual basis by each respondent and was used solely for means of identifying university newspapers with censorship problems.

The questionnaire contained three parts. The first part asked for sociological information about the adviser or editor. Two different sets of questions were designed to compensate for the differences in the sociological backgrounds between these respondents.

The second part of the questionnaire asked for general information about the university's student newspaper.

The third part of the questionnaire contained 14 attitude statements relating to censorship or control of the college newspaper. A five-point scale ranging in value from strongly agree to strongly
disagree followed each statement. The midpoint of the scale indicated neutral.

The third part of the questionnaire also contained two open-ended questions designed to elicit opinions and philosophies about the role and function of college newspapers.

This method of data collection was used only to gather preliminary information. Even after a second mailing, the response rate to the questionnaire was low, a serious drawback for this study. According to Fred N. Kerlinger in his book, *Foundations of Behavioral Research*, the mailed questionnaire should be used in conjunction with other survey methods to be most effective because of low response rates and the researcher's inability to verify the responses.²

Personal interviews were scheduled with student newspaper editors and advisers at the universities identified through preliminary research and phone interviews. Kerlinger stated that survey research using this technique as the principal method for gathering data is "... perhaps the most powerful and useful tool of social scientific survey research."³

Additionally, personal interviews conducted in conjunction with factual information from questionnaires have the advantage of indicating the beliefs, attitudes, opinions and feelings of persons, as well as their own estimations of their reasons for their actions and beliefs.⁴
Restrictions and Limitations of the Study

Gathering of preliminary information was restricted to a mailing addressed to a list of 337 colleges and universities in the United States which had journalism programs.\(^5\)

The study was further limited to 17 case studies selected on the basis of telephone conversations with 35 respondents to the questionnaires.

These 17 university newspapers indicated censorship or arbitrary control problems that corresponded to examples cited in the literature review. The study was also limited to these 17 university newspapers because of time and financial considerations involved in personally interviewing the respondents and others at each of the universities.
ENDNOTES

1 Barclay, pp. 4-43.


3 Ibid., p. 395.

4 Ibid., p. 396.

5 Barclay, pp. 4-43.
Chapter 4

PRESENTATION OF CASE STUDIES DATA

The data from this study was collected through personal interviews with college student newspaper editors, student newspaper advisers, university faculty members, university administrators, and others involved with the production and management of student newspapers. The interviews were conducted at 17 universities in 14 states. These universities were:

1. East Central Oklahoma State University, Ada
2. Northeastern Oklahoma State University, Tahlequah
3. Central Oklahoma State University, Edmond
4. University of Central Arkansas, Conway
5. Illinois State University, Normal
6. Northern Illinois University, DeKalb
7. Ball State University, Muncie, Indiana
8. University of Cincinnati
9. University of Delaware, Newark
10. University of Tennessee, Chattanooga
11. Pittsburg State University, Pittsburg, Kansas
12. University of Nebraska, Lincoln
13. Humboldt State University, Arcata, California
14. Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff
15. University of Nevada, Las Vegas
Advisers' Roles Relative to Censorship and Control

Of the 17 student papers investigated, only the Yellin' Rebel at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, does not have an adviser. The editor of the Rebel, Carmen Zayas, said that the staff is interested in having an adviser assigned to the paper from the department of communications studies who would help them with the censorship and control problems the newspaper has encountered with university student senate and administrators.¹

However, Dr. Barbara Cloud, chairperson of the department of communications studies, said that although the department would like to provide the Rebel with a faculty adviser, she is reluctant to have the department get involved with the newspaper's problems. Cloud said that the department is small and advising a student newspaper is
almost a full-time job for a faculty member. The person assuming the position would probably have to volunteer his or her services.  

Three university newspapers have full-time journalists who are advisers to their staffs: the *Daily Nebraskan* (the University of Nebraska, Lincoln), *USC Today* (the University of Southern Colorado) and the *Collegio* (Pittsburg (Kansas) State University).

Don Walton, adviser to the *Nebraskan*, is a political reporter for the *Lincoln Star*. He was hired for the position by the university chancellor. The position is provided for and described in the *Daily Nebraskan Policy Handbook*: "(A) professional journalist from outside the University will be hired as a part-time adviser." 

Because his role and duties are clearly described in the handbook, and because he is a full-time professional journalist, Walton is seldom in the *Nebraskan*’s newsroom. He is available, however, for advice about ethics or libel, but he most often functions as a liaison between the newspaper and the university administration.

Greg Nucifora is part-time adviser at Pittsburg State and a full-time news editor for the Pittsburg *Morning Sun*. He was hired by university President Donald Wilson in January 1985 when the former adviser to the *Collegio*, Dr. John Knowles, requested to be allowed to return to teaching full-time after advising the paper half-time and teaching half-time for 16 years.

Nucifora was appointed interim adviser until a full-time journalism faculty member could be found. However, due to a $50,000 university budget cut and President Wilson's restructuring of the
journalism department and publications board, the search for a new faculty member stalled.  

Wilson has assured Knowles, who heads the journalism program, that eventually a new instructor will be hired. In the meantime, Nucifora's advisership worries Knowles. He said that Nucifora is incapable of using the paper as a learning tool because of limited teaching experience. Knowles also said the quality of the newspaper is suffering because Nucifora is only part-time. 

According to Knowles, the journalism program's relationships with many area high school journalism students and teachers has suffered because of Nucifora's inability to capitalize on the paper's teaching function. Knowles thinks the program's enrollment at Pittsburg will also decline because of this. 

Gail Binkly, sports editor at the Colorado Springs Gazette Telegraph, advises USC Today at the University of Southern Colorado. She also teaches a class in the department of mass communications. Because she commutes from Colorado Springs—an 85-mile round trip—Binkly is seldom on campus, according to Debbie Vialpando, editor of USC Today. Vialpando said Binkly functions most often as a liaison between the newspaper staff and Mass Communications Department Chairman Richard E. Pavlik. 

According to Vialpando, Binkly often goes to Pavlik whenever she has a disagreement with an editor over a story. Pavlik is listed as the publisher of the paper. Vialpando said that "after one of
these episodes, you can usually count on a visit from Pavlik about the story. He often asks you not to run it.\textsuperscript{11}

The Today's adviser, together with Pavlik and the outgoing editor, select a new editor-in-chief each semester. The adviser's recommendations are crucial to the selection process, since she works most closely with the student staff. Vialpando said that the selection process often hinges on "who you know in the department."\textsuperscript{12}

Of the 13 other advisers, nine are faculty. The journalism programs at eight of these universities provide the advisers: Central Oklahoma State University, the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, the University of Delaware, Humboldt State University, the University of Central Arkansas, Northern Arizona University, Ball State University and the University of Montana. The English Department of Northeastern Oklahoma State University provides the adviser to The Northeastern.

Jon Finch, adviser to The Northeastern, was appointed by President Roger Webb after the previous adviser, who had a feature-oriented news approach, resigned. Finch said he was appointed because "Webb knew I wouldn't rock the boat."\textsuperscript{13}

Finch's academic background is in education, English and psychology. His professional media experience is in public relations for a circus. He teaches 15 hours of English per semester in addition to his advising duties, and occasionally teaches a public relations course for the journalism department.\textsuperscript{14}. 
Finch said that he was selected as adviser by Webb because Webb is listed as the publisher, and "he controls the paper." Finch said he knows very little about putting out a newspaper and was selected by the president for this reason. He also said that he is reluctant to "allow" the newspaper staff to cover controversial stories because he wants to keep his job.15

As a result, Finch is willing to censor the paper even if the stories he censors are not libelous or disruptive of, or materially interfere with, school activities. He said that the quality of the paper is very poor because each semester the editorial staff is worse and worse. Finch selects the editors from applicants for the position, but fewer and fewer qualified students apply. Last spring's staff was so frustrated with putting out the paper, "they got to the point of just gritting their teeth and saying, 'Let's get this damned thing over with and out however we can!'"16

Central Oklahoma State University's newspaper adviser is Hank Mooney. Mooney teaches half-time for the journalism department and advises half-time. Although he is on the journalism faculty, Mooney was hired by the university administration as adviser and then given teaching assignments. His position is non-tenurable.17

When Mooney assumed The Vista's advisership five years ago, he listed himself as "director/executive editor" of the newspaper on its masthead. Mooney said the change was for libel purposes. He said he was worried that a student editor would be held liable of editorial content of the newspaper and not the department of journalism.18 The
newspaper is also listed as a "teaching instrument" for journalism students in its masthead, but Mooney said that The Vista is actually a "quasi-lab paper" because anyone may work on the staff. Mooney does the first screening of editor applicants and then makes his recommendations to the journalism faculty. The department usually endorses his recommendations.19

When Mooney was hired in the fall of 1981, he replaced Denny Hall. Hall had been adviser since 1976 but resigned because of censorship pressures from faculty and administration. According to Hall, Mooney was hired for the position even though none of the applicants interviewed by the screening committee was qualified.20 Mooney's primary professional background is in photojournalism. He was a photographer for the Daily Oklahoman for 11 years, editor of a military newspaper for four years, and director of public information for Eastern Oklahoma State College, Wilburton, for eight years.21

Although a publications board sets general policy for the newspaper in a written set of guidelines, Mooney said the board seldom meets and the guidelines need to be revised. He would not provide the researcher with a copy of the guidelines. Mooney also said that he reads all copy prior to publication, "but the editor has final determination of the content of the paper."22

Former Vista editor Curtis Killman said that he probably wasn't aggressive enough editorially during his term as editor. He said that Mooney often cautioned him about "making enemies" in the university, particularly those who may be responsible for newspaper
equipment purchases. Killman also said that Mooney was very careful about guarding against editorials and stories which may "destroy" an individual. 23

The adviser to the University of Delaware's The Review is Dr. Ed Nickerson, coordinator of the journalism program. Dr. Nickerson teaches both journalism and English because his educational background is in English and he has nine years of daily newspaper and wire service background.

According to former managing editor Paul Davies, Dr. Nickerson does not take an active role as an adviser. Nickerson is only consulted on legalities governing libel and invasion of privacy, particularly when a story is about someone or a department on campus. Davies also said that Nickerson tended to be one-sided in his advice. 24

Former editor Ross Mayhew said that

(t)he idea of an adviser who is a faculty member is one that should be re-examined. Too often an adviser practices selective censorship whereby he comments a great deal on one subject but little on another. The reasons are often linked to his duties as a professor. It would be better to have a local editor serve as the adviser so as to remove any possible areas of conflict. 25

The researcher was unable to ask Mayhew what he meant by his answer to one of the open-ended questions on the survey instrument, because Mayhew committed suicide a week before he would have graduated in the spring of 1986. The Review had been experiencing severe pressure from the university administration for a series of articles
Mayhew and his staff wrote about breaches in security of computerized student academic files.26

Meg Goodyear, executive editor of The Review, wrote an article about Mayhew's death for the May 20, 1986, issue. She quoted Newark Police Chief William Brierley as saying that "it appears he (Mayhew) was extremely despondent over some occurrences in both his personal and professional life."27

Whatever the reason for Mayhew's suicide, Davies said that the newspaper staff received very little support from Nickerson or other journalism faculty in the paper's battle with the administration for control of the student newspaper.28

At the other end of the spectrum is Howard Seemann, adviser to The Lumberjack at Humboldt State University. Seemann is a defendant in a lawsuit filed by Adam Truitt and the editorial board of The Lumberjack in November 1984. The suit was filed because the editorial staff felt section 42403(c) (1) of Title 5 of the California Administrative Code violated the First and Fourteenth Amendments' constitutional guarantees of free speech and due process.29

Seemann has been adviser to The Lumberjack for 16 years. He teaches half-time in the journalism department and advises the newspaper half-time. Each semester, Seemann explains Title 5 to The Lumberjack's staff because legal opinions rendered in 1965 and 1976 by the Office of General Counsel of the State of California, said that student newspapers of state universities may not endorse state or national political candidates or ballot issues unless the endorsement
is signed by the author and a disclaimer appears in conjunction with
the endorsement. 30

Seemann said he explained Title 5 to the staff in order to
fulfill the "letter of the Law," and also to provoke the suit that
Truitt finally filed. Seemann thought the law was unconstitutional,
but his position as adviser to the newspaper precluded him from filing
the suit himself. 31

Arnie Braafladt, plaintiffs' attorney in the suit and a former
Lumberjack political reporter (1973-74), is acquainted with Seemann.
He said Seemann has attempted to raise funds to continue the paper's
legal battle with the State of California. Braafladt also said that
Seemann has been designated a "friendly witness" towards the
plaintiffs by defendants' attorney, Lawrence J. Gumbiner. 32

Although The Lumberjack is a "quasi-lab" paper because
students may receive college credit for working on the staff, Seemann
does not view the journalism department as the publisher of the paper.
He does not view the State of California as publisher, either, even
though approximately 15 percent of the newspaper's budget is student
fees. Consequently, The Lumberjack does not list a publisher in its
masthead. 33

According to Seemann, "The publisher has the right to
determine the editorial issues of the paper." Seemann established the
editorial board of The Lumberjack to be the determiners of the paper's
editorial content, "and no one else." 34
Both Seemann and Braafladt said that making editors sign editorials endorsing candidates and ballot issues would have a "chilling effect" on future editors' opinions in The Lumberjack, which is clearly an infringement of First Amendment rights. 35

Bob Dardenne, adviser to The University Echo at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, spent his first year as a student newspaper adviser breaking in new editors. As a volunteer adviser from the university's communication department, Dardenne felt his nominal stipend from the Echo's funds was inadequate to cover the censorship headaches he and the Echo's staff have contended with. 36

Dardenne's professional background includes 12 years of newspaper and magazine reporting and copy editing. Although he admitted he was not really a "proponent" of some of the issues of the professional press, he found himself in a position as adviser to the Echo of "booster" of First Amendment rights for the paper's staff. 37

Because he is new to journalism education, Dardenne said he is going slowly in revising the Manual for Student Publications of the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga. Several sections of the manual are infringements of First Amendment rights because the manual was written when the university was still private. Dardenne said he wanted to educate the administration about constitutional law before making any drastic changes in the manual. 38

Dardenne's role relative to the newspaper is complex because he volunteered for the position of adviser. It is also complicated because the paper is under the jurisdiction of student affairs and the
paper also "pays" him for his services. Technically, anyone may volunteer for the adviser's position although traditionally the adviser has been a journalism faculty member.39

The Echo's adviser does not select editors, but he strongly influences the selections the publications board makes. Dardenne said he had a strong preference for older student editors because they were more stable and exercised better judgment. Even so, his first editor for fall semester 1985 resigned mid-semester because she could not handle the pressures from Dr. Charles M. Renneisen, vice-chancellor for student affairs, during his weekly "critique" sessions of the newspaper.40

Ball State University's Daily News is advised by Dr. David L. Knott. Knott was hired by the journalism department specifically as adviser to the newspaper 10 years ago. Although his position is tenured, Knott said he has had problems receiving promotions from Michael Gemignani, former dean of the College of Sciences and Humanities because of a teaching load requirement and publications and research emphasis set by the dean for promotion. Knott only teaches one course for the journalism program.41

Knott's primary duties involve advising the student newspaper. He is well-versed in First Amendment cases dealing with the rights of the student press and a stringent advocate of those rights. Knott aided Louis E. Inglehart with the research for his most recent book, Freedom for the College Student Press: Court Cases and Related Decisions Defining the Campus Fourth Estate Boundaries.42
Although Knott's official title is coordinator of operations for the Daily News, he said he has come to see his role as an

...obligation (as I see it) to protect and defend student rights against administrative actions aimed at stifling student input in university policy-making. ... We are ...battling university efforts to install a "grievance board" for student publications. It would be a terrible chilling effect for student journalists, and we feel it is stifling First Amendment rights of student publications.\(^{43}\)

Carol Van Valkenburg has been adviser to the University of Montana's Kaimin for two years. Prior to that, the student newspaper had no adviser for 10 years. Van Valkenburg was appointed adviser to help the paper with its battles over funding from the student government and a policy proposal by the university's board of regents to change the structure and function of the publications board.\(^{44}\)

Van Valkenburg views her role as adviser of First Amendment rights for The Kaimin's student staff. As a faculty member of the journalism program, Van Valkenburg is familiar with the problems of the student press at Montana. She has spent much of her two years as adviser advocating The Kaimin's First Amendment rights.\(^{45}\)

Legal precedent governing First Amendment rights of the student press is something the adviser to The Echo at the University of Central Arkansas is not familiar with. J. Dean Duncan, both director of the journalism program and The Echo's adviser for the last 19 years, said that although he was not well-versed on student press rights, he knew censorship when he saw it. He said he "inherited" a
censored newspaper when he took over as adviser because the previous adviser did not know what she was doing.⁴⁶

Duncan's professional background includes 15 years experience on newspaper staffs, including the Arkansas Gazette. Although he is familiar with professional newspaper operations and organizational structures, he assumes things are done differently on a student-run publication. Duncan said that The Echo doesn't list a publisher, but he thought the university's president functioned as publisher because most of the newspaper's funding is from institutional funds.⁴⁷

Duncan encourages his staff members and journalism students in investigative reporting efforts. He bemoans the fact that students are increasingly less aggressive in covering hard news on the campus. On the other hand, Duncan seemed stymied as to how to re-establish editorial control of The Echo with its student editors under the auspices of the publications board, rather than under President Jefferson D. Farris and Vice President for Academic Affairs Robert M. McChesney.⁴⁸

Duncan is also concerned that a new journalism faculty member, Dr. Bruce Plopper, will be named adviser when he retires. He said Plopper was hired over the objections of two-thirds of the screening committee. According to Duncan, Plopper was hired because he had a doctorate and despite the fact he had little academic background in journalism education or media experience. Duncan does not have a doctorate.⁴⁹
The adviser to Northern Arizona University's student newspaper is Larry Bohlender. He teaches half-time for the university's school of communication and advises *The Lumberjack* half-time.50

The journalism department at Northern Arizona has traditionally viewed the student newspaper as a lab paper, and so lists it in the university's catalog. However, recent administrative pressures and the issue of who the legal publisher of the student newspaper is, have forced the journalism department to investigate restructuring the newspaper. Changing *The Lumberjack* from a lab paper to an independent corporation would also alter Bohlender's role as adviser.51

According to Gary Fox, former editor-in-chief of *The Lumberjack* and presently managing editor, Bohlender reads most, if not all, of the paper's copy before each weekly edition is published. However, Bohlender has never actually censored a story but has suggested improvements. Fox said Bohlender functions primarily as a liaison between the journalism department and the newspaper, particularly in the matter of selecting an editor-in-chief.52

Although the majority of the advisers contacted for this study were faculty members of the universities, four advisers did not fall into this category: Lynne Freeman, public information director for East Central Oklahoma State University; Harry Thiel, classified as "professional/faculty" at Illinois State University; Jerry Thompson, classified as a civil servant at Northern Illinois University; and,
Virginia Rouslin, classified as an administrator at the University of Cincinnati.

Freeman just concluded her first year as adviser to both the university newspaper and yearbook. She received her bachelor's in mass communications from East Central and is now working on a master's there in human services administration. Freeman's professional and educational backgrounds are in television and radio broadcast.53

Hired as public information director on the recommendation of the former director, Tom Wood, Freeman said he called her and asked her if she was interested in the job, which included advising The Journal. She assumed her duties as public information director after a perfunctory interview with President Stanley Wagner.54

Freeman does not see any conflict of interest in being both public information director for the university and student publications adviser. She said that the paper has been under the advisership of the public information director since the university was founded in 1909. Freeman said that since there is no publications board or written publications policies, she selects the editorial staff of the paper. She added that she usually lets the staff run things except when it comes to "biased" reporting.55

Freeman's duties as public information director occupy most of her working day. She also oversees photographic services and helps with the alumni relations office affairs. This spring she also moonlighted as a disc jockey for a local radio station, a job, she
said, that many radio-television majors at the university would "give their eye-teeth for."  

Wood, who resigned as public information director at East Central to take the position of dean of fiscal affairs at an Oklahoma junior college, reiterated Freeman's view that there is no conflict of interest in being student newspaper adviser and public information director. Wood added that he thought the public information office was the best place for supervision of The Journal because "it keeps the paper honest and free from journalism department interference."  

Harry Thiel, adviser to the Daily Vidette at Illinois State University, said that he was originally classified as a civil servant. However, because he teaches one class for the journalism department, he was reclassified as "professional/faculty" under the classification system for employees of Illinois universities.  

Although Thiel's official title is general manager, the job-description for the position listed in the constitution and by-laws for the Vidette lists delegation of authority to student newspaper department managers as one of the primary duties. The by-laws further state the general manager "shall allow the student managers of these departments freedom to make the necessary day-to-day decisions to run their own departments. Only where there are serious problems and major issues will the general manager intercede and resolve the issue."  

Thiel said his role as adviser is strictly limited because of the by-laws, which state the publications board is the newspaper's
publisher. Since he is hired by the publications board specifically as general manager of the Vidette, Thiel must answer to the publications board for any problems that may occur with the newspaper. He said that the board as it is presently structured has too much potential power over him and the paper, and plans to revise the constitution and by-laws governing the paper.60

Classified as a civil servant, Jerry Thompson, adviser to Northern Illinois' Northern Star, said his classification helped him in his current suit against the university's board of regents and former Northern Illinois President Clyde Wingfield. He said that he cannot be arbitrarily reassigned positions—as Wingfield did in the spring of this year—without due process.61

Thompson said he was hired as the Star's adviser 15 years ago by the university's journalism department. Although his position evaluations and salary raises are administered through the journalism department, Thompson's classification as a civil servant makes him subject to the rules governing civil employees for the state of Illinois. He is "accountable" only to the head of the journalism program and the publications board for the newspaper.62

Thompson had been through many censorship problems with the Star during the past 16 years, but had never encountered an administrator who attempted to control the newspaper directly by reassigning him to the university's public relations office for Continuing Education. Thompson said that the paper's financial
problems were a source of continuing irritation and that his expertise in the area of newspaper fiscal affairs was negligible.63

The outcome of Thompson's suit is pending, but Thompson assumes that "after the dust has settled" the paper will be restructured within the university system. He said the paper may "go independent," which would also alter his role as adviser to the Star.64

Virginia Rouslin is student media adviser for the University of Cincinnati's student publications. She was hired specifically for this position six years ago by Vice Provost of Student Affairs Linda Weiner, and is classified as an administrator by the university.65

Rouslin currently serves as adviser to the student newspaper, The News Record, and the student magazine on a 10-month contract. Although she was originally hired on a 12-month contract, the paper and magazine do not publish during the summer months, so the length of her contract was reduced. However, the Record's financial obligations do not cease during the summer.66

Because the paper consistently operates in the red even though the university is located in a major metropolitan area with potentially good advertising revenues, Rouslin requested student affairs hire a professional business manager on a 12-month contract to handle the paper's budget. Rouslin said she is not capable of advising the two student publications as proper educational tools, and supervise the part-time student business managers for the publications as well.67
According to former Record editor Dan McSwain, Rouslin has been instrumental in obtaining internships for journalism students with local newspapers. However, she is inept in day-to-day budget matters and does not seem to have the time to adequately supervise the publication's fiscal management.

The advisers' involvement in censorship problems at these 17 universities varies. Often their roles or position classifications are vague or complex within the universities' systems. The University of Nevada had no adviser at the time of this study.

Nine advisers are faculty members: one in the English Department at Northeastern Oklahoma State University, and eight on journalism faculties at Central Oklahoma State University, the University of Delaware, the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, Humboldt State University in California, the University of Central Arkansas, Ball State University in Indiana, the University of Montana and Northern Arizona University.

The advisers at East Central Oklahoma State University, Illinois State University, Northern Illinois University and the University of Cincinnati have other titles and functions within the universities' administrative systems.

Each adviser brings a different set of values and experience to the position, which may or may not contribute to the problems the newspapers have with censorship.
Administrators' Roles Relative to Censorship and Control

Without exception, each of the university newspapers in this study have had problems with administrative censorship or arbitrary control. According to Louis Inglehart, professor emeritus of journalism at Ball State University, today's university administrators seem to have "MBA mentalities" which affect their views of the roles and functions of university student newspapers.69

Most of the incidents cited in this study involved overt and covert methods used by university administrators to censor or control the university newspapers. Of the 17 university newspapers studied, eight came under pressure from the university presidents; two had problems with the public information directors; four were censored or controlled by vice presidents; four experienced difficulties with boards of regents; three were targets for censorship by provosts or vice-provosts; two were censored by chancellors or vice-chancellors; and 11 university newspapers had multiple censorship problems involving administrators listed above and department chairpersons, a dean, an education commissioner or an athletic director.

Although no direct instances of censorship were documented for this study at East Central Oklahoma State University, President Wagner, with the help of former PIO director Tom Wood, maintained control of the student newspaper through the selection process for Wood's successor. Freeman stated repeatedly that "nothing controversial ever happens at ECU," so there is very little hard news for the newspaper staff to cover.70
On the other hand, the adviser to *The Northeastern* at Northeastern Oklahoma State said he knows controversial issues arise on campus that the newspaper should be covering. However, Finch said that President Webb hired him with the stipulation that Webb be named publisher so he could control the newspaper.71

At Central Oklahoma State University, the president and journalism department head overrode the search committee's recommendations and hired Mooney as *The Vista's* adviser, even though Mooney was not considered qualified for the position.72

Central's journalism department chairman, Ray Tassin, is listed as *The Vista's* "administrative publisher." According to Killman, Tassin exercised his publisher's prerogative and pulled an editorial about a faculty member which he felt would have damaged the man's reputation.73

Both President Jeff Farris and the vice president for academic affairs at the University of Central Arkansas took publications board matters into their own hands. The publications committee appointed an experienced interim editor to help *The Echo's* less experienced staff through a transition period. Kyle Massey was unpopular with the administration because of several articles and columns he had written spring semester 1984 which were critical of the university's athletic department.74

Farris sent a memo to members of the publications committee in which he chastised the committee for ignoring university regulations covering a student's academic standing "to engage in certain
non-classroom activities." He added that he and the board of trustees decided that selection of future editors for The Echo "would be somewhat different." 75

Henceforth, the publications committee would only be allowed to recommend an editor to Vice President for Academic Affairs Robert M. McChesney. Employment of the editor

... will rest with that Vice President with the clear understanding that at any time that office decides to reject a Publications Committee recommendation, a letter of explanation of the reasons for that rejection will be given both to the Publications Committee and to the Board (of Trustees) through the President. 76

However, McChesney revised the editor selection process still further in a memo sent to Farris in January of 1986. McChesney only recommended Stacie Nunn as editor based on her academic standing and the publications committee's recommendation. At the bottom of the memo is a notation in Farris' handwriting of "approved" followed by his signature and the date. 77

President Donald Wilson's proposed restructuring of the journalism department at Pittsburg State University serves as a potential source of administrative control. Although the restructuring is not an overt method for gaining control of the Collegio, Wilson's proposal has had a direct effect on the quality of the newspaper.

Wilson has also directly interfered in the Collegio's editorial processes. He approved a format change in the paper which
was proposed by the part-time adviser, Nucifora. The change from a weekly to bi-weekly publication caused printing costs to soar and the *Collegio*’s budget is now $20,000 in the red. Consequently, the president determines whether the paper may continue to publish.\(^78\)

In the two years that Wilson has been president of Pittsburg State, he has restructured the publications board membership and convinced an editor not to run a story about a new faculty member’s conviction for a misdemeanor in another state. He has also given the editor several stories to cover which amount to little more than public relations pieces.\(^79\)

According to Knowles, Wilson has so ingratiated himself with the student editors of the *Collegio*, that he remarked at this year’s journalism banquet that “the only student I see in my office more than the student body president is the editor of the paper.”\(^80\)

At Illinois State University, part of the *Vidette*’s staff staged a walk-out in April of this year to protest the publications board’s selection for editor-in-chief.

Although a front-page editorial blasted the publications board collectively for disregarding the staff’s recommendation for editor, former editor Mary Andersen felt the decision to appoint another editor over the staff’s recommendation was orchestrated by Judy Boyer, vice president for student affairs and chairman of the publications board.\(^81\)

The *Vidette*’s adviser also said that Boyer was exerting a strong influence over the decision-making process of the publications
board which could possibly affect the editorial content of the newspaper. 82

A series of articles printed in *The Northern Star* critical of President Clyde Wingfield was responsible for Wingfield's attempt to arbitrarily remove Thompson as adviser to the newspaper. Articles about cost overruns to remodel the president's house appeared in April of 1986, while a month before Wingfield assumed Northern Illinois' presidency in July of 1985, the *Star* ran documented articles critical of Wingfield's tenure at a university in New York. 83

Although the *Star* does not list a publisher, Wingfield assumed he was publisher of the newspaper because university legal counsel so advised him. As publisher, Wingfield thought he had the power to transfer Thompson anywhere on campus and replace him with Donald Brod. Brod is a journalism professor whom Thompson said Wingfield blackmailed into taking the position by threatening to put the newspaper under the purview of the communications studies department rather than the journalism department. 84

Because he was arbitrarily reassigned without due process, Thompson filed suit to regain his position as adviser. In the suit he named Wingfield and the board of regents as plaintiffs. Although Thompson sued only to regain his position as adviser to the paper, some board members were supportive of Wingfield's administration and were reluctant to settle with Thompson. A temporary injunction against the board to reinstate Thompson has been approved, but the case is still pending. 85
According to David Knott, the dean of the college of sciences and humanities at Ball State University—who has resigned—was responsible for attempting to control the Daily News. Dean Michael Gemignani was responsible for obtaining control of part of the newspaper's funds from the university's vice president for financial affairs and gradually diverting part of the $100,000 allotted to the paper to other areas in the college. He also proposed to abolish the student publications sub-committee of the university senate, a committee which he felt served no function. 86

Gemignani viewed the Daily News as a drain on the college's budget. He felt the paper was not responsible fiscally to anyone although the paper filed monthly reports accounting for its budget expenditures with the university business office. 87

In a letter to the editor of the Daily News, Gemignani responded to an article the paper ran about potential censorship problems which would result from restructuring or abolishing the student publications sub-committee. Gemignani argued from the viewpoint that the dean had administrative, budgetary and academic oversight of the newspaper: "The DN (Daily News), after all, justifies its receipt of money from my budget by being a student laboratory." 88

The dean added that "(a)s Dean, I have substantial powers that I could use to help or hurt the DN whether I am represented on the (Student Publications) Committee or not." 89
Gemignani had been at odds with the paper since his appointment as dean. The Daily News ran an article in January of 1982 about Gemignani's holding communion services in his office on campus. In a letter to then editor Sue Barnhizer which Gemignani stressed was not for publication, he requested Don Yeager—the reporter who covered the communion story—"not be assigned in the future to interview me on any subject." He added that he was not unwilling to grant interviews to other staff members, nor did the request imply "that I am attempting to control what goes into your paper."90

In a similar letter to David Knott, the Daily News' adviser, Gemignani said he would be willing to provide "off the record" background sessions on administrative topics for the newspaper staff. Gemignani made the offer because he said it had been his experience that many reporters "who cover administrative matters are generally not well-versed in University procedures and the constraints under administrators (sic) operate." Again he added that he was not trying to control editorial policy of the newspaper.91

At the University of Cincinnati, the adviser thinks the vice-provost for student affairs is attempting to control the content of the student newspaper by her arbitrary methods of dealing with the adviser and student staff members.92

Virginia Rouslin said that the vice-provost often issued what amounted to edicts governing newspaper operating policies which should have been handled by the publications board. Rouslin said she restructured the publications board membership to include members from
the university college of business, the dean of university college, the media adviser, the editors of the student publications, a faculty member from the university's English department, an undergraduate student appointed by the student senate, a "working journalist from the greater Cincinnati area" and an attorney. Rouslin said she restructured the board in order to circumvent administrative control through the office of student affairs.93

The vice-chancellor for student affairs and the public information director at the University of Tennessee, Chattanooga, have been responsible for administrative censorship of The Echo. According to managing editor Esther Mendez, Vice-Chancellor Charles M. Renneisen considers himself publisher of the paper, even though The Echo's masthead lists "The University of Tennessee–Chattanooga."94

Both Mendez and Dardenne said Renneisen thinks one of his duties as publisher is to critique each issue of the paper with the editor and adviser. These sessions so upset a former editor that she would burst into tears each time. She finally resigned. Renneisen also told the editor he had to okay each issue before it was published.95

When an editor refused to run a "public relations" piece about the university's financial status in March 1986, Renneisen authorized the printing of 4,000 copies of the piece which he had inserted into the paper without informing the student editor.96

Public Information Director John Kerr pressured editor Jodi Dillard into not publishing a story about the athletic department in
the summer 1986 orientation issue. The story concerned an NCAA investigation of alleged payoffs to university basketball players by members of the booster club; charges of rape against two university football players; and a credit card theft by two other football team members. 97

According to The Echo's adviser, it is a tradition of the university for the paper to be a "promotional tool which doesn't publish information discrediting the university." 98

The board of trustees for Humboldt State University was named as a defendant in The Lumberjack's First Amendment rights suit because the trustees have continually affirmed the legal opinion regarding Title 5's control of university newspaper endorsements. Although the trustees recognized the right of the student press to determine the editorial content of student newspapers at universities governed by the board, in a meeting in 1976 the board's final statement on Title 5 was to direct that university administrators continue heeding the provisions of the title's section dealing with use of public funds. 99

The board of regents at the University of Nebraska at Lincoln investigated the possibility of having more direct control of the editorial content of the Daily Nebraskan in 1981. The board was alarmed because a personal letter to the editor of the Nebraskan from someone who had donated a generous sum in South African kruggerands to the university was published by the professional press. The regents were also unhappy over the firing of a Nebraskan editor for plagiarism. 100
Instead of taking administrative control of the newspaper from the publications board, the regents opted instead to include a code of ethics for the *Nebraskan* in the policy handbook.\(^1\)

The university's chancellor was worried about a monopoly suit from one of the local professional newspapers. The *Lincoln Star* is a generous financial supporter of the college of communications. The paper's general manager complained that the *Nebraskan's* staff lacked professionalism and was making heavy inroads in the paper's advertising revenues.\(^2\)

Alarmed, the chancellor appointed an ad hoc committee which functioned through the dean of the college of communications to investigate the *Nebraskan's* business relationship to the university. However, the *Lincoln Star* did not file suit so the chancellor's committee recommendations were not implemented.\(^3\)

Nebraska Athletic Director Tom Osborne has pressured the *Nebraskan* through the board of regents, the dean of the college of communications and the university's chancellor to stop distribution of the newspaper's free football program. The program is in direct competition with the athletic department's, which must be purchased.\(^4\)

Besides the student senate at the University of Nevada, the vice president for academic affairs, and the chairman of the film studies department attempted to control or censor the *Yellin' Rebel*.

Vice President for Academic Affairs John Unrue attempted to pressure former editor Greg Dorchak into not running a story about a
plagiarism suit filed by a former university graduate student against the head of the film studies department. Unrue told Dorchak not to run the story, even if he could document it. Dorchak decided not to run the story because the student dropped the suit. 105

The plagiarism story provoked the head of the film studies department to academically harass Dorchak. The Rebel's editor was taking a few classes in that department at the time the story broke in the fall of 1985. Dorchak received three "D's" for the classes he took in the film studies department, even though he had been a strong "B" student until then. He was also told by the department chairman that nothing he could have done would have raised his grades, even though his work for the semester had been of above-average quality. Dorchak was so bitter over his experience as editor of the Rebel he dropped out of school. 106

Administrative censorship at Northern Arizona University is similar to the case at Northern Illinois. Although President Eugene M. Hughes does not view himself as publisher of the paper, he covertly attempts to control the student newspaper because of a new hard-news editorial policy instituted by editor Gary Fox in the spring of 1986. 107

Fox said Hughes is so exasperated by the stories he ran in The Lumberjack, that Hughes asked the journalism department to call in a team of four consultants to develop a new method of handling the paper. The Lumberjack is presently listed as a "laboratory learning
too" in the university's catalog, and student staffers may receive college credit for working on the paper.108

The decision governing the paper's restructuring is scheduled to be made August of 1986 between the summer and fall semesters. Although the journalism faculty have input into the decision-making process, the decision rests with Hughes. Fox said Hughes traditionally makes important decisions governing controversial university issues during semester breaks because it lessens the impact of negative decisions, and the newspaper cannot cover the story well.109

A new president at the University of Southern Colorado and the vice president for business affairs have both exercised control of the student newspaper.

President Robert Shirley was hired by the university's governing board two years ago to reorganize its structure. Shirley's administration was covered by the staff of USC Today, particularly whenever another effort at retrenchment occurred. The paper published no fewer than 20 stories about Shirley's retrenchment program between September and December of 1985.110

The stories upset Shirley enough that he refused to be interviewed by anyone on the Today's staff. Shirley established a policy requiring a reporter to submit his questions in writing to Communications Director Sally McGill. McGill screens them and then relays them to Shirley. The president then issues a written answer which McGill gives to the reporter.111
A story campus/news editor Teresa Paul wrote for the February 26, 1986, issue about the vice president for business affairs was responsible for getting her evicted from her apartment. Paul wrote a story about Vice President George Murdoch's by-passing university parking ticket policies. Murdoch "fixed" a parking ticket for a faculty member who had an outdated parking decal. 112

Paul was tipped to the story by an anonymously sent copy of a memo from Murdoch to the faculty member. She also connected the memo to the rise in "fixed" parking tickets for lapsed faculty decals because she worked in the business office which handled the tickets. 113

Paul and current Today editor Debbie Vialpando were roommates in an apartment building owned by Murdoch. They received their eviction notice from Murdoch on March 1, 1986, three days after the article appeared in the Today. Paul wanted to fight the eviction, but Vialpando talked her out of it. 114

The commissioner of higher education for the State of Montana proposed a new policy last fall to create a press publications board for the University of Montana's student newspaper. According to the newspaper's adviser, the proposal was a clear attempt to control the editorial content of The Kaimin, presumably because of the paper's ongoing conflict with the student government. 115

According to Paul Davies, all of the censorship and control problems The Review at the University of Delaware encountered were
primarily the efforts of one man: university Provost L. Leon Campbell.116

Although The Review has a journalism faculty adviser, the paper functions autonomously. All budget revenues are generated from advertising sales. The university provides the paper space on campus, but all other expenses are paid for by the newspaper. The staff sets its own publication policies and procedures because there is no publications board. Further, The Review lists the University of Delaware student body as publisher in the masthead.117

Because the paper functions independently of the university and is not governed by the journalism program or a publications board, the provost found both overt and covert methods of controlling the paper. According to an administrative source for The Review, Campbell said in a meeting of his top administrators that he would prevent Review senior staff members from graduating if at all possible.118

Davies said that, in order to carry out this plan, Campbell allowed university police to harass The Review's editors by following them and summarily calling them in for questioning. Security questioned the editors on two separate occasions without benefit of due process.119

Based on Campbell's approval, the university hired a convicted computer "hacker" named Ian Murphy. Murphy was hired to make recommendations for tighter security measures for computer files of student records, as well as locate the student hackers. The Review ran a story based on an interview with Murphy which said
Campbell refused to comment when asked if he were aware of Murphy's criminal record for hacking. His only statement was that the investigation (of student hacking) was continuing.

The Review also learned from its administrative source that Campbell was planning to have the locks to the newsroom changed. However, the provost changed his mind because he was told that such an action would be a direct violation of the students' rights.

Campbell and Mayhew met after Mayhew's last article on the hacking incident appeared in May 1986. The meeting ended in a shouting match between the two. Two weeks later, Mayhew hanged himself in his apartment. In his final column, "From the Boss"—incomplete at the time of his death but published in The Review's May 20 issue—Mayhew wrote:

I would like to acknowledge certain administrators who proved to me, time and time again, that education is the reason the university is here. . . . Their convictions helped lessen the bitterness that most editors feel from dealing with authority everyday. It has been an interesting two years.

**Journalism Programs' Roles Relative to Censorship and Control**

Only seven of the journalism departments at the 17 universities used for this study were connected with censorship and control problems of the universities' student newspapers.

The journalism departments at Northeastern Oklahoma State University, the University of Cincinnati, the University of Delaware, the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, the University of Nebraska at Lincoln, the University of Nevada at Las Vegas, the University of
Montana, East Central Oklahoma State University, Illinois State University and Northern Illinois University do not seem to be directly involved with their respective newspaper's problems.

However, at Central Oklahoma State University, Department Chairman Ray Tassin is listed as administrative publisher of The Vista because of its quasi-lab paper function. Tassin also exercised control over editorial content of the paper when he pulled an editorial from an issue.123

Although the adviser of Central Arkansas' newspaper is also the head of the journalism program, he has not been involved in determining editorial policies for the paper. He is worried, however, that a new journalism faculty member hired over the recommendations of the screening committee, is being groomed as the paper's new adviser when he retires. Duncan foresees a potential censorship problem developing for The Echo should Dr. Bruce Plopper succeed him as both adviser to the newspaper and head of the program. Plopper has already told Duncan his loyalties lie with the administration on issues unrelated to the student newspaper.124

The journalism program at Pittsburg State University is indirectly responsible for giving control of the Collegio to the university's president. Department Chairman John Knowles said that the president's promise of restructuring the department and hiring new faculty caused him to leave as adviser to the paper at mid-academic year. Knowles said that had he known then what he knows now about the
restructuring process, he would not have resigned as adviser mid-year.125

Most of the journalism department faculty at Ball State University are fighting the dean's efforts to restructure the publications sub-committee to function as a "grievance board" for complaints against the Daily News. However, Dr. Earl Conn, chairman of the department, indirectly abetted Dean Gemignani's restructuring of the board. Conn played the role of ambassador between the dean and the Daily News' adviser.126

In a letter dated March 28, 1985, the adviser told Conn that he had given the dean's suggested revision a great deal of thought and was even more opposed to it than previously. Subsequent communications between the journalism faculty opposed to the revision and the dean were filtered through Conn's office.127

A memo from Conn to Gemignani dated December 4, 1985, requested a determination of the constitutionality of Section 11.22 of the new university council and committee system. The section provided for a "grievance function" to be assigned to the newly restructured student publications sub-committee. In best diplomatic fashion, Conn said:

I believe it is in the best interest of all concerned that the best determination possible be made as quickly as possible as to whether the section is likely unconstitutional or not. Certainly if the best advice is that it (Section 11.22) is unconstitutional, then the university should be quite hesitant to pass it on toward ultimate approval of the Board of Trustees.128
Although the adviser to Humboldt State University's student newspaper is a defendant in *The Lumberjack*'s First Amendment suit filed in 1984, which is still pending, the journalism department is not really connected with its censorship and control problems. Seemann conscientiously explained the provisions of Title 5 to the student staff members each semester with the aim of getting the newspaper to file suit. 129

However, in the petition of the suit, both Seemann and Journalism Department Chairman Mark Larson are named as defendants. 130 Prosecuting Attorney Arnie Braafladt said that eventually some of the defendants may be dropped from the suit, but he did not specify if either Seemann or Larson would be among them. 131

Because the journalism department at Northern Arizona University offers course credit to students working on the newspaper, *The Lumberjack* functions as a lab paper for the department. However, anyone may be hired as a staff member and does not automatically receive credit. 132

The department does exercise some editorial control over the newspaper. Larry Bohlender, the newspaper's adviser and a journalism department faculty member, reads all copy prior to publication. The department also selects the editor-in-chief of the newspaper. However, the department is investigating restructuring the paper under the policies of a publications board or some other method of management, because of administrative pressures regarding controversial stories the paper printed last semester. 133
The paper is supported entirely by advertising revenue, and the department faculty think the paper could also "go independent" of any university control. 134

Journalism Department Chairman Richard Pavlik lists himself as publisher for USC Today at the University of Southern Colorado. When the paper became financially independent from the university 10 years ago, Pavlik felt it was necessary that a publisher be listed in the paper's masthead. 135

Although the paper is independent of the university for any financial support except some equipment purchases through the journalism program's budget, the journalism department controls the paper's finances. Journalism professor Trish Orman is in charge of the Today's budget, and approves only those supply requests she thinks the paper should have. The paper pays the university rent for its facilities, and all utilities. 136

Because Pavlik is listed as publisher, he often tells the staff what they should or should not cover in the paper. When the editor decided to run a series of satirical stories about the defunct football team's games, Pavlik told the staff that they should find other copy to fill the sports pages with. Pavlik also usually sat in on the paper's weekly editorial board meetings and made content suggestions. 137
Publications Boards' Roles Relative to Censorship and Control

Publications boards at eight of the 17 universities in this study are involved either directly or indirectly in the student newspapers' censorship and control problems. The remaining nine university newspapers either did not have a publications board, or their boards were inactive or function in purely fiscal capacities.

At one end of the scale have been administrative attempts to control the university press by restructuring the publications board or reassigning its functions. The University of Central Arkansas, Pittsburg State University, Ball State University and the University of Montana have publications boards which fall into this category.

At the other end of the scale are the publications boards at the University of Nebraska at Lincoln and the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga. Each of these boards holds tremendous power over the university press. The duties and functions of the publications board at the University of Nebraska are outlined in detail in the policy manual and the board's makeup is given in the publications committee by-laws.

The University of Tennessee's student publications manual outlined in similar detail the responsibilities of the publications board. Those responsibilities include:

1. Selection of student editors
2. Ability to remove editors from office "for cause"
3. Supervision authority over the newspaper's finances
4. Appellate authority for staff suspensions or "other disciplinary actions taken by an editor against members of his staff"

5. Imposition of sanctions against parties violating the provisions of the manual

Both these publications boards have exercised their functions to remove student staff members on various occasions.

Somewhere in the middle of the scale is the publications board at Illinois State University. Meeting monthly, the board decides all issues affecting the Daily Vidette except those of an editorial nature. However, the wording in the Vidette's constitution and by-laws is often so vague governing the publications board's responsibilities, the paper's adviser is revising the constitution.

The constitution and by-laws for the Vidette and its publications board state the board is the paper's publisher and is charged with the general supervision of the staff, the paper and its fiscal operations. Further duties and responsibilities include:

1. A function as "a motivating force to ensure the newspaper's performance in the areas of budget and journalistic service to the University"

2. Review agent for serious grievances

3. Liaison with the president in the paper's general operations
4. Arbitrator of differences "where serious problems are involved"¹⁴²

The makeup of the board is outlined in the policies, and includes "one administrative representative appointed by the President. . . ." The vice president for student affairs presently holds that position and has great influence over the publications board's decisions.¹⁴³

The adviser to the student publications at the University of Cincinnati also restructured the publications board. However, Rouslin restructured the board to enhance the student publications' press freedoms.¹⁴⁴

Student Governments' Roles Relative to Censorship and Control

The most frequent connection between student governments and university student newspapers is funding. If a newspaper receives funds from student fees, more often than not those funds are allocated through the student government. According to the literature review, this funding source was a frequent element in student government attempts to censor or control the student newspaper.

However, only five of the 17 university newspapers in this study indicated any censorship problems with student governments. The other 12 indicated either student government did not attempt to control or censor the paper, or the newspaper did not receive funds through the student government.
At Pittsburg State University, the student senate president is a member of the publications board. The president of the university restructured the board so he could control board appointments more closely. The student senate president has been closely cultivated by Pittsburg's president.145

At Northern Illinois, the paper bases its budget on advertising revenues and institutional funds. However, the student government pulled its funding several years ago because the paper would not yield to its pressures regarding editorial content. The paper has functioned without the funds ever since.146

Student Senate President Bill Mercer cut the government's $10,000 allocation to The Kaimin at the University of Montana to $1.00 last spring. Mercer reduced funding when the newspaper successfully defeated the commissioner of higher education's publications policy proposal for the university. The Kaimin also successfully stalled Mercer's alternative publications proposal until Mercer left the student senate presidency in the spring of this year. Mercer wanted the student senate to control the campus newspaper.147

The five student members of the publications board at the University of Nebraska, Lincoln, are all nominated by the student government. The Nebraskan still receives about five percent of its $750,000 yearly budget from student fees. In the past, student government investigated the possibility of taking editorial control of the paper through its members on the board. The board's policy
handbook staggers the one-year terms of the student members of the publications board in order to avoid such a problem.148

However, the student government pressured the Nebraskan's business manager to accept a larger share of the university's student fees. The business manager resisted student government's offer of a 15 percent increase because he felt they were trying to control the newspaper through funding. At one time, the Nebraskan received over 75 percent of its funds from student fees.149

Almost all of the University of Nevada's student newspaper's censorship problems stem from student government. Almost half of the Yellin' Rebel's $80,000 budget is funneled to the paper through the student senate of the Consolidated Students of the University of Nevada (CSUN). The rest of the budget is funded by advertising revenues.150

The student senate also confirms the publications board's choice for editor-in-chief and the nominations for the professional journalist members of the publications board. Because of the student senate's and CSUN's large role in the operation of the Rebel, four staff members hold seats on the 20-member senate to prevent an outright takeover of the paper by the student government.151

In 1984 the student senate removed Franco Frantellizzi from his post as editor-in-chief for the Rebel on the grounds of financial mismanagement. Frantellizzi's removal came after he published a series of articles and editorials critical of the student senate. The senate closed the paper's budget and ceased publication of the Rebel
until fall semester of 1984. The editor the senate appointed was so inept that most of the student staff quit the paper, so she resigned in November 1984. \(^{152}\)

Ron Zayas was appointed interim editor to fill the previous editor's two-semester term. But Zayas had only been editor a couple of months when he began receiving "subpoenas" from the senate's commission on research and investigation (CRI). \(^{153}\)

Student Senator Anthony Holm created CRI in order to "investigate" various contracts and agreements CSUN had with its departments. Zayas began running articles critical of CRI's tactics in the Rebel, and Holm stepped up the senate's investigation of the newspaper. However, Zayas' articles so embarrassed the student senate, the senators voted to impeach Holm before his term expired in May of 1985. \(^{154}\)

University student newspapers used in this study are subject to a variety of methods for controlling or censoring the editorial content of the papers. Often the 17 university newspapers of this study were subjected to arbitrary control or censorship through the newspapers' advisers. Either the advisers exercised prior review of copy or exerted pressure on staff members to eliminate or alter content.

Sometimes the adviser was hired by an administrator to control the university's newspaper because the adviser lacked adequate educational and professional backgrounds to advise a student
newspaper. Still other advisers appointed themselves editor or publisher of the paper.

Administrators attempting to control the student press at these 17 universities ranged from department chairpersons to members of the boards of regents or trustees. Often the journalism program was also connected to the newspaper's censorship or control problems because it provided a faculty member as adviser to the paper.

Of those university newspapers studied which had publications boards, only a handful attempted some sort of control of the student newspapers. Student governments most often attempted to control student newspapers through their roles as funding sources.

Whatever the sources of censorship and arbitrary control problems for each of these university student newspapers, the study showed the complexity of the problems because several papers experienced censorship and control attempts from more than one of the groups cited in this report.

The following chapter presents a more detailed summary of the conclusions and recommendations of this study.
ENDNOTES

1 Carmen Zayas, editor of The Yellin' Rebel, interview held at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, Nevada, 18 July, 1986.

2 Dr. Barbara Cloud, chairperson of the department of communications studies, interview held at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, Nevada, 18 July, 1986.

3 Dan Shattil, business manager of The Daily Nebraskan, interview held at Lincoln, Nebraska, 4 July, 1986.

4 University of Nebraska, Handbook, p. 23.

5 Shattil interview.

6 Dr. John Knowles, journalism department chairman, interview held at Pittsburg State University, Pittsburg, Kansas, 3 July, 1986.

7 Ibid.

8 Ibid.

9 Ibid.


11 Ibid.

12 Ibid.

13 Jon Finch, adviser to The Northeastern, interview held at Northeastern Oklahoma State University, Tahlequah, Oklahoma, 4 June, 1986.

14 Ibid.

15 Ibid.

16 Ibid.

17 Hank Mooney, adviser to The Vista, interview held at Central Oklahoma State University, Edmond, Oklahoma, 5 June, 1986.

18 Ibid.
20 Dennis Hall, journalism faculty member. At Central Oklahoma State University, interview held at Edmond, Oklahoma, 5 June, 1986.

22 Ibid.

23 Curtis Killman, former editor of The Vista, interview held at The Midwest City Sun, Midwest City, Oklahoma, 5 June, 1986.

24 Paul Davies, former managing editor of The Review, interview held at Wilmington, Delaware, 20 June, 1986.


26 Davies interview.


30 Mayer Chapman, associate counsel for California State Colleges, to Dr. George D. Demos, dean of students, California State College, Long Beach, California, 19 November, 1965, personal files of Arnie Braafladt, Eureka, California; and Mayer Chapman, associate counsel for California State University and Colleges, to Academic Vice-Presidents of California State University and Colleges, Long Beach, California, 4 October, 1976, personal files of Arnie Braafladt, Eureka, California.

31 Howard Seemann, adviser to The Lumberjack, interview held at Eureka, California, 13 July, 1986.

32 Arnie Braafladt, attorney, interview held at Eureka, California, 14 July, 1986.

33 Seemann interview.

35 Seemann interview, and Braafladt interview.
36 Bob Dardenne, adviser to *The Echo*, interview held at the University of Tennessee, Chattanooga, Tennessee, 24 June, 1986.

37 Ibid.

38 Ibid.

39 Ibid.

40 Ibid.

41 David Knott, adviser to *The Daily News*, interview held at Ball State University, Muncie, Indiana, 16 June, 1986.

42 Ibid.

43 David Knott, answer to question B. of section 3, page 3 of the preliminary questionnaire, January 1986.

44 Carol Van Valkenburg, adviser to *The Kaimin*, telephone interview held at South Dakota State University, Brookings, South Dakota, 30 June, 1986.

45 Ibid.

46 J. Dean Duncan, adviser to *The Echo*, interview held at the University of Central Arkansas, Conway, Arkansas, 9 June, 1986.

47 Ibid.

48 Ibid.

49 Ibid.

50 Larry Bohlender, adviser to *The Lumberjack*, answers to questions 6 and 7 of section 1 of the preliminary questionnaire, January 1986.

51 Gary Fox, managing editor and former editor-in-chief of *The Lumberjack*, interview held at Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff, Arizona, 21 July, 1986.

52 Ibid.

53 Lynne Freeman, public information director and publications adviser to *The Journal*, interview held at East Central Oklahoma State University, Ada, Oklahoma, 3 June, 1986.

54 Ibid.
55 Ibid.
56 Ibid.
57 Tom Wood, dean of fiscal affairs, interview held at Connors State College, Warner, Oklahoma, 4 June, 1986.
58 Harry Thiel, adviser to The Daily Vidette, interview held at Illinois State University, Normal, Illinois, 12 June, 1986.
59 Illinois State University, Constitution and By-laws for Vidette and Vidette Publications Board, Section I, Article B., Sub-section 2, p. 2 of the by-laws.
60 Thiel interview.
61 Jerry Thompson, adviser to the Northern Star, interview held at Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, Illinois, 13 June, 1986.
62 Ibid.
63 Ibid.
64 Ibid.
65 Virginia Rouslin, student media adviser to The News Record, interview held at the University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, Ohio, 18 June, 1986.
66 Ibid.
67 Ibid.
68 Dan McSwain, former editor of The News Record, telephone interview held in Cincinnati, Ohio, 18 June, 1986.
69 Louis Inglehart, professor emeritus of journalism, interview held at Ball State University, Muncie, Indiana, 17 June, 1986.
70 Freeman interview.
71 Finch interview.
72 Hall interview.
73 Killman interview.
74 Duncan interview.
Jefferson Farris, president of the University of Central Arkansas, to Publications Committee, Dr. JoeArn, Ms. Venita Lovelace-Chandler, Mr. Dean Duncan, Mr. Scott Markham, Mr. Bob McCormack, Dr. Waddy Moore and Dr. Gloria Spencer, the University of Central Arkansas, Conway, Arkansas, 17 December, 1984, personal files of J. Dean Duncan, Conway, Arkansas.

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Robert M. McChesney, vice president for academic affairs of the University of Central Arkansas, to Jefferson Farris, president of the University of Central Arkansas, the University of Central Arkansas, Conway, Arkansas, 3 January, 1986, personal files of J. Dean Duncan, Conway, Arkansas.

Glenn Robinson, former adviser to the yearbook at Pittsburg State University, interview held at Eastern Illinois University, Charleston, Illinois, 11 June, 1986.

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Mary Andersen, former editor of the Daily Vidette, telephone interview held at South Dakota State University, Brookings, South Dakota, 28 June, 1986.

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Thompson interview.

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Ibid.

Knott interview.

Michael Gemignani, dean of the college of sciences and humanities, interview held at Ball State University, Muncie, Indiana, 17 June, 1986.

Michael Gemignani, dean of the college of sciences and humanities at Ball State University, to The Editor of the Daily News, Ball State University, Muncie, Indiana, 4 December, 1985, personal files of David Knott, Muncie, Indiana.

Ibid.
90 Michael Gemignani, dean of the college of sciences and humanities at Ball State University, to Sue Barnhizer, editor of the Daily News, Ball State University, Muncie, Indiana, 29 January, 1982, personal files of David Knott, Muncie, Indiana.

91 Michael Gemignani, dean of the college of sciences and humanities at Ball State University, to David Knott, Ball State University, Muncie, Indiana, 1 September, 1983, personal files of David Knott, Muncie, Indiana.

92 Rouslin interview.

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94 Esther Mendez, managing editor of The Echo, interview held at the University of Tennessee, Chattanooga, Tennessee, 24 June, 1986.

95 Mendez interview; and Dardenne interview.

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98 Dardenne interview.

99 The Committee on Educational Policy for the Board of Trustees of Humboldt State University, Agenda Item 3, p. 3, Meeting of September 21-22, 1976.

100 Shattil interview; and Bob Asmussen, summer editor for the Daily Nebraskan, interview held at the University of Nebraska, Lincoln, Nebraska, 3 July, 1986.

101 Ibid.

102 Ibid.

103 Ibid.

104 Asmussen interview.

105 Carmen Zayas interview.

106 Ibid.

107 Fox interview.

108 Ibid.
109 Ibid.
110 Vialpando interview.
111 Ibid.
112 Ibid.
113 Ibid.
114 Ibid.
115 Van Valkenburg interview.
116 Davies interview.
117 Ibid.
118 Ibid.
119 Ibid.
121 Davies interview.
123 Killman interview.
124 Duncan interview.
125 Knowles interview.
126 Earl Conn, chairman of the department of journalism at Ball State University, interview held at Ball State University, Muncie, Indiana, 17 June, 1986.
127 Knott interview.
128 Earl Conn, chairman of the department of journalism at Ball State University, to Michael Gemignani, dean of the college of sciences and humanities at Ball State University, Muncie, Indiana, 4 December, 1985, personal files of David Knott, Muncie, Indiana.
129 Seemann interview.

131. Braafladt interview.

132. Fox interview.

133. Ibid.

134. John I. Sisco, director of the school of communication, interview held at Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff, Arizona, 21 July, 1986.

135. Vialpando interview.

136. Ibid.

137. Ibid.


140. Shattil interview; and Mendez interview.

141. Thiel interview.


143. Andersen interview.

144. Rouslin interview.

145. Knowles interview.

146. Thompson interview.

147. Van Valkenburg interview.

148. Shattil interview.

149. Ibid.

150. Carmen Zayas interview.

151. Ibid.
152 Ibid.

153 Ron Zayas, former editor of *The Yellin' Rebel*, interview held at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, Nevada, 18 July, 1986.

154 Ibid.
Chapter 5

SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS FOR FURTHER RESEARCH

The Problem

The purpose of the study was to secure primary data about censorship and control of university student newspapers from advisers, student editors and staff members, university administrators, university journalism faculty members, members of university student newspaper publications boards and other persons involved with the operations of college newspapers.

The data received from these sources was compared with secondary information derived from the literature review. There were three points guiding the focus of the literature review:

1. The role and function of college newspapers
2. Court cases and incidents involving censorship and control of the college newspaper
3. The college newspaper relative to the university's organizational structure

The literature provided seven specific elements which guided the field study portion of this report:

1. The newspaper's relationship to the university's administration
2. The newspaper's relationship to the journalism program
3. The newspaper's relationship to the publications board
4. The newspaper's relationship to the student governing body
5. The newspaper's relationship to the adviser
6. The newspaper's funding source(s)
7. The newspaper's listed publisher

Design of the Study

Data gathering methods included a preliminary review of the literature. Based on the information gained from the preliminary review, a questionnaire was developed.

The questionnaire contained three parts, each part pertaining to a different aspect of university student newspapers. The first part pertained to sociological information about the adviser or editor of the student newspaper. The second section asked for general information about the newspaper, while the third section contained attitude statements relating to censorship or control of the student newspaper. Answers to part three were ranged on a five-point scale.

The results of the questionnaires mailed to 337 university newspaper advisers and 337 university newspaper editors were only used to identify university student newspapers with censorship or arbitrary control problems.

Personal interviews were scheduled with student newspaper editors and advisers at 17 universities throughout the United States. The researcher traveled to each of these university campuses to conduct the field study portion of the report.
Conclusions

This study was guided by three basic assumptions about college student newspapers. Both the literature and field research indicated that the role and function of college student newspapers are ill-defined, varying greatly from campus to campus.

These variations stemmed from the complex relationships student newspapers had with different elements of their campus communities. Some papers had close ties with journalism programs through their advisers, while others had no dealings with university journalism programs whatsoever. Some newspapers were funded through journalism departments; others, from student fees channeled through student governments; still others, solely from advertising revenues. Several papers were funded from multiple sources.

Compounding the already complex profile of the "average" university student newspaper were the various viewpoints as to who the publisher of the newspaper was. Some newspapers listed the university president, others the university itself, and still others did not list a publisher at all. Who was listed as publisher—or not listed as publisher—often affected the paper's relationships with its various campus publics.

Because many of the 17 newspapers in this study had not formally stated their objectives and purposes, or had examined what their roles and functions should be as campus newspapers, no clear organizational distinctions were developed which defined the papers' relationships within the universities' structures. Although several
papers had written publication policies, most of these policy statements were seldom up-dated or enforced until an issue arose involving student press freedoms, rights and responsibilities. These policies were also usually written in broad terms for ill-defined objectives.

Like the larger community in which a university exists, a campus community is not static. Students, staff and faculty change from year to year. The relationships the campus newspaper establishes with the university's community change as a consequence: a president retires, the journalism department is reorganized, the student government becomes the funding source for all campus student organizations.

Without a viable, formal statement of objectives and purpose, as well as a well-defined role and function, the student newspaper is vulnerable to arbitrary control and censorship by other elements of the campus community.

The student journalists in this study contended with situations that—although they were learning experiences, as some editors mentioned—were nonetheless difficult problems for them to understand and deal with effectively. The student staff members did not always know what their rights as journalists were nor, sometimes, if their rights had actually been violated.

They did know that they were under tremendous pressures from sources outside their newsrooms to perform well in providing the campus community with news and information on the one hand, but not by
publishing articles and editorials critical of the university on the other. As a consequence, these student journalists often felt jaded and confused as to the true nature of a free press in a democratic society.

Given the basic assumptions of this study, the 17 case studies closely paralleled secondary data from the literature and illustrated one or more of the basic assumptions as well.

Only one newspaper, the Yellin' Rebel at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, did not have an adviser. Three of the student newspapers had professional journalists as advisers, while nine papers had university faculty members. Of these nine, eight were members of journalism program faculties and one taught in the English department.

The remaining four university newspapers had advisers who were listed as: 1. a civil servant; 2. an administrator; 3. a public information director; and, 4. a professional/faculty member.

Each of the 16 advisers viewed his or her role in college student newspaper management differently from the others.

All 17 university newspapers experienced some censorship or arbitrary control problems from a university administrator. Instances of censorship or control which involved more than one administrator on campus occurred at 11 of the 17 campus newspapers.

Control or censorship of the student newspaper by the university journalism program occurred on only seven campuses of the field portion of this study. Censorship by publications boards was indicated by eight of the university student newspapers.
Although the literature suggested that the most frequent violator of student press rights is student government, only five university newspapers of the 17 case studies said student government had threatened their First Amendment freedoms.

The case studies clearly showed the complexities which govern operations of university student newspapers. No two university papers were structured alike, whether internally or in relations to the organizational structure of the university. Although several newspapers reported similar funding sources, few listed publishers who were identical.

Suggestions for Further Research

Because this study focused on only 17 field cases involving censorship and control of the university student newspaper, the researcher suggests additional data be obtained from a statistical analysis of the responses to the preliminary questionnaires for this study.

This study was limited to 17 cases because of financial and time considerations. The study was also limited to a mailing list for the preliminary questionnaires of those colleges and universities in the United States which were listed by the 1985 AEJ Directory as having journalism programs. However, the 1985 Editor & Publisher International Yearbook listed 800 university and college student newspapers.
Although 800 university newspapers have been documented, this list is incomplete, and the information it contains is relative to advertising purposes. More comprehensive statistical information is needed about the college campus press, as well as its current problems with censorship and arbitrary control.

The researcher suggests several different methods of data collection be incorporated with the case-study method in order to gain a fuller profile of university student newspapers and their censorship problems.

Other methods of data collection could include content analyses of university student newspapers and readership surveys. Development of a more comprehensive list which identify as many university newspapers, their funding sources, publishers, advisors and overall organizational structures as possible is also suggested.

Further, surveys of each of the various elements of university communities should be conducted which measure attitudes of these campus groups towards the role and function of the student newspaper. Mailed questionnaires alone, or case studies alone, are wholly inadequate to address the complexities of student press problems of censorship and arbitrary control.

Continued research of court cases governing First Amendment rights of the college student press is also suggested. Review of the literature showed that much of this information is fragmented, outdated or in a state of flux pending new case outcomes.
Future research of censorship and control problems of university student newspapers is mandated by the fact that, despite legal precedents, this study indicated censorship in various forms is an on-going, complex problem for the campus press.
ENDNOTES

1The 1985 Editor & Publisher International Yearbook (New York, New York: Editor & Publisher, 1985), pp. II-75 through II-83.
APPENDIX A
January 14, 1986

Dear Adviser:

I need a few minutes of your time to find out your views about censorship of the campus press.

The enclosed questionnaires are designed to cover basic questions about you, the campus paper, and your attitudes toward censorship of the student newspaper. The answers to your questionnaire, along with hundreds of other student newspaper advisers across the country, will help provide a profile of censorship levels and types of control of the nation's campus press. Of course, the answers to your questionnaires will be kept confidential.

If there is no student newspaper adviser on your campus, would you please route this letter and the attached questionnaires to the individual who is most directly responsible for the paper?

Thank you for your time and assistance. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth A. Minden
Graduate Assistant

Enclosure
January 14, 1986

Dear Editor:

I need a few minutes of your time to find out your views about censorship of the campus press.

The enclosed questionnaires are designed to cover basic questions about you, the campus paper, and your attitudes toward censorship of the student newspaper. The answers to your questionnaire, along with hundreds of other student editors across the country, will help provide a profile of censorship levels and types of control of the nation's campus press. Of course, the answers to your questionnaires will be kept confidential.

These questionnaires are also being sent to the advisers of the papers. However, I need your input to complete the picture.

Thank you for your time and assistance. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth A. Minden
Graduate Assistant

Enclosures
ADVISER DEMOGRAPHICS QUESTIONNAIRE

1. AGE:__________

2. SEX: Male:____ Female:____

3. HIGHEST DEGREE EARNED:
   A. None:____
   B. Bachelor's Degree:____
   C. Master's Degree:____
   D. Ph.D.:____

4. EMPHASIS OF DEGREE(S) EARNED:
   A. Bachelor's Degree:
   B. Master's Degree:
   C. Ph.D.:__

5. MEDIA EXPERIENCE:
   A. Type:
   B. Number of Years (specify total if several types):____
   C. None:____

6. NUMBER OF YEARS OF COLLEGE NEWSPAPER ADVISING EXPERIENCE:____

7. IF POSITION INCLUDES TEACHING DUTIES, PLEASE SPECIFY FOR WHICH DEPARTMENT:

8. NAME OF COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY:

9. NAME OF STUDENT NEWSPAPER:

(NOTE: If you need more room for your answers, please feel free to use the back of this sheet.)
EDITOR DEMOGRAPHICS QUESTIONNAIRE

1. STAFF TITLE:

2. SEX: A. Male:_______ B. Female:_______

3. DEGREE WORKING TOWARDS:
   A. Bachelor's Degree:_______
   B. Master's Degree:_______
   C. Other:_______ Specify:_____________________________________________________

4. DEGREE MAJOR OR EMPHASIS:_________________________________________________

5. DO YOU INTEND TO WORK IN THE JOURNALISM FIELD AFTER GRADUATION:
   A. Yes:_______
   B. No:_______
   C. If Yes, specify area:_______________________________________________________
   D. If No, specify other field:_________________________________________________

6. METHOD OF SELECTION FOR STAFF EDITOR:
   A. Adviser:_______
   B. Publications Board:_______
   C. Student Governing Body:_______
   D. Journalism Department Head or Journalism Department:_______
   E. Other:_______ Specify:_______________________________________________________

7. LENGTH OF TIME IN PRESENT STAFF POSITION:___________________________________

8. NAME OF COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY:_______________________________________________

9. NAME OF STUDENT NEWSPAPER:_______________________________________________

(NOTE: If you need more room for your answers, please feel free to use the back of this sheet.)
NEWSPAPER DEMOGRAPHICS QUESTIONNAIRE

1. NAME OF COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY: ________________________________

2. INSTITUTION IS: A. Public:_____ B. Private:_____

3. INSTITUTION IS: A. Two-Year:_____ B. Four-Year:_____

4. NAME OF STUDENT NEWSPAPER: ________________________________

5. CIRCULATION: ____________________________________________

6. LISTED PUBLISHER: _______________________________________

7. FREQUENCY OF PUBLICATION:
   A. Daily:_____ C. Monthly:_____
   B. Weekly:_____ D. Other:____ Specify:____________

8. FUNDING SOURCE:
   A. Advertising Only:_____
   B. Student Fees Only:_____ 
   C. Advertising and Student Fees:_____
   D. Advertising, Student Fees and Institutional Funds:_____
   E. Institutional Funds Only:_____
   F. Other:____ Specify:____________________________________

9. NEWSPAPER STAFF SIZE: ________________________________

(NOTE: If you need more room for your answers, please feel free to use the back of this sheet.)
**KEY:**

S.A. = Strongly Agree  
A. = Agree  
N. = Neutral  
D. = Disagree  
S.D. = Strongly Disagree

### STUDENT NEWSPAPER ATTITUDES QUESTIONNAIRE

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>ITEM</th>
<th>S.A.</th>
<th>A.</th>
<th>N.</th>
<th>D.</th>
<th>S.D.*</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. The student editor should be allowed to determine the content of the student newspaper.</td>
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<td>2. The student newspaper should be free from any faculty/administrative control except that of the adviser.</td>
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<td>3. The college/university administration should have the right to prohibit publication of articles it feels may be harmful to the institution, even if they are not libelous, obscene or disruptive in nature.</td>
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<td>4. The college/university administration should have some form of control of the student newspaper in order to protect itself against publication of potentially damaging articles</td>
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<td>5. The adviser should control the student newspaper in order to protect the college/university from publication of potentially damaging articles.</td>
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<td>6. If the student newspaper relies on some form of institutional funding, the college/university should be allowed some control over newspaper content.</td>
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<td>7. It is more important for a student newspaper to have an institutionally written set of guidelines than for the student editor to formulate news-editorial policies.</td>
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### Student Newspaper Attitudes Questionnaire

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<tr>
<td>8. The adviser of the newspaper is morally and ethically obliged to give student staff members any details to an administratively &quot;classified&quot; story to which he/she has full &quot;inside&quot; information.</td>
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<tr>
<td>9. An adviser with &quot;inside&quot; information should contact the college/university administration before revealing the details of an administratively &quot;classified&quot; story to the student staff.</td>
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<td>10. It is more important for a student newspaper to represent the college/university to its publics than as a forum for student activity and opinion.</td>
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<td>11. The student newspaper should be more a tool for the training of college/university journalism students than a forum for student opinion and campus activity.</td>
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<td>12. The student newspaper should be allowed to publish articles critical of faculty and/or administration.</td>
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<tr>
<td>13. The student newspaper should include articles critical of students and/or student activities and organizations.</td>
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<td>14. In order for a student newspaper to be independent of college/university control, it should not accept any form of financial or facility assistance from the institution.</td>
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</table>
Page Three. Student Newspaper Attitudes Questionnaire.

As an adjunct to the preceding questions, would you please answer the following:

A. Define the role of the college/university newspaper as you see it:

B. Have your philosophy or policies toward the student newspaper changed recently, and, if so, why and how?

(NOTE: Please feel free to use the backs of these sheets for your answers or for any other remarks regarding these questions.)
FACSIMILE OF THE

"PUBLICATIONS BOARD OPERATING POLICY"

FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA, LAS VEGAS

The Board of Regents, as the publisher, must ultimately bear the responsibility for the contents of all official CSUN Publications, as stated in the UNS Code. The publishing authority is further delegated by the CSUN constitution and the CSUN governing body to the Publications Board. The Publications Board in turn delegates to student editors and staff members sufficient editorial freedom and financial autonomy for CSUN Publications to maintain their integrity as vehicles for free inquiry and free expression in an academic community.

ARTICLE I DEFINITION OF TERMS

Section 1. BOARD: the CSUN Publications Board

Section 2. GOOD STANDING: not on scholastic or disciplinary probation. A CSUN member (see Article II and 9 to the CSUN constitution).

Section 3. OBSCENITY: shall be the current Supreme Court ruling and current community standards.

Section 4. LIBEL: shall be defined as the current Nevada Statute and whatever federal law applies.

Section 5. REMOVAL: suspension from all powers, rights, and privileges of a position.

Section 6. STUDENT: a CSUN member (see Article II of the CSUN constitution).

Section 7. STUDENT PRESS: the student editors and their staffs, faculty advisors to publications and the CSUN Publications Board.

Section 8. STUDENT PUBLICATIONS: those publications officially recognized by CSUN.
ARTICLE IV STUDENT STAFF MEMBERS

Section 1. Editors-in-Chief of student publications have final authority over what is published in their respective publications as these policies are followed. However, the editorial freedom of student editors involves the obligation to be governed by the canons of responsible journalism. Editors shall be responsible for establishing operating procedure for their respective staffs. This Board shall have the power to review all procedure.

Section 2. Associate editors shall perform the duties assigned to them by the editors-in-chief.

Section 3. All appointed staff members must, during their tenure, be in good standing with the university.

ARTICLE V RECOGNIZED STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

Section 1. The student newspaper shall be known as The Yellin Rebel and its purpose shall be to publish news and comments of interest and importance to the university community with emphasis upon that news which most directly and immediately concerns the students.

A. The Yellin Rebel shall be published on a weekly basis, except for finals week.

B. Minimum qualifications for (editor?):

1. Applicant must have completed a minimum of two semesters as a regular staff member.

2. Applicant must have a minimum of two semesters' experience on the staff of The Yellin Rebel.

3. It is expected that the applicant will have successfully completed the beginning courses in Journalism.
PUBLICATIONS BOARD OPERATING POLICY.

Section 2. The student magazine shall be known as The Quicksilver and its purpose shall be to promote the cultural arts and provide a medium of creative expression for the university community.

Section 3. The Board by a 2/3 majority vote (as defined in Senate Bylaw 20) may waive requirements pertaining to experience and training when, in their judgment, the quality of student publications would be enhanced thereby.

ARTICLE VI ADJUDICATION OF DISPUTES

Any member of the university community may petition the Board in matters relating to these policies. The Board has original jurisdiction in cases of alleged violation of these policies including instances in which violations of journalistic ethics or proper accountabilities are charged. The Board's authority extends to all CSUN publications staff members. Complaints against the respective student publications should be initially directed to the Chairperson of the Publications Board to be brought before the Board. The complainant may petition the Judicial Council.

Section 1. Editors shall have the discretion to bring matters they consider to be in violation of these policies before the Board.

Section 2. Upon receiving a complaint, the Chairperson of Publications Board may at his/her discretion attempt an informal settlement in consultation with the complainant, the accused and professional from the Board.

Section 3. If informal attempts at settlement fail, or upon appeal of either party in the dispute, the Board shall sit as a hearing body - a public procedure of relative formality of which guidelines for each hearing are drawn up.

Section 4. No member of the Board who is a party to the dispute or who has a conflict of interest in a specific case shall sit as a member of the hearing body.
PUBLICATIONS BOARD OPERATING POLICY.

Any member may be challenged by the parties to the dispute, but the decision as to disqualification resides with the Board.

Section 5. The hearing shall be conducted in such a manner as to provide due process to all parties.

Section 6. Sanctions which may be imposed by the Board include, but are not restricted to, the following:

A. Admonition or warning.
B. Censure.
C. Directed publication of corrections refutation, or apology.
D. Recommendation for further disciplinary action.

Section 7. Any student penalized according to these procedures may appeal to the Senate. Such penalty within ten days of being notified of the decision according to its prescribed procedures.

ARTICLE VII COMPENSATION

Section 1. Compensation level for editor-in-chief is set at a Class D: Directors status, as set out in Senate Bill 010.

A. The actual compensation amount is nominated by the Executive Board and ratified by the Senate.

Section 2. Any compensation for associate editors and staff members will come from that specific publication budget, and may be set by the editor-in-chief.
PUBLICATIONS BOARD OPERATING POLICY.

Section 9. STUDENT PUBLICATIONS STAFF: any CSUN person, except advisors, performing a regular service on a student publication.

Section 10. VICE-CHAIRMAN: shall be nominated and ratified by the Board. He/She shall be empowered and held responsible for the board in the absence of the chairperson.

Section 11. CANONS OF RESPONSIBLE JOURNALISM: a) avoid libel, undocumented allegations, attacks on personal integrity, techniques of harassment and innuendo, etc. b) stress sincerity, truthfulness, accuracy, impartiality, fair play, decency, and independent and fidelity to the public interest.

ARTICLE II GENERAL PROVISIONS

Section 1. Student editors and staff members are expected to be governed by the canons of responsible journalism.

Section 2. The student press shall be free of censorship and advance approval of copy, and its editors and managers are free to develop their own editorial policies and news coverage. This Board recognizes the First Amendment rights of student publications set out in the U.S. Constitution.

Section 3. Editors and staff members of student publications are protected from arbitrary suspension or removal because of editorial policy or content.

Section 4. Censure or removal shall be only for proper and stated causes. No editor or staff member shall be censured or removed without being afforded procedural due process.

Section 5. All recognized student publications shall explicitly state on the editorial page or other appropriate place that the opinions expressed in the publication are not necessarily those of the University or of CSUN.
PUBLICATIONS BOARD OPERATING POLICY.

ARTICLE III THE CSUN PUBLICATIONS BOARD

Section 1. The CSUN Publications Board shall be the policy-making body for all recognized CSUN publications and shall be an adjudicative body to resolve disputes over and within student publications, as laid out in Article VI of this policy.

Section 2. The Board shall consist of 7 voting members, 3 of which are professionals, 4 of which are students. The professionals will include a Communications Studies Department Faculty person, a representative of the UNLV Information Services Office, and a member of the professional print media. Student members will include at least 1 communications studies major, and at least 1 CSUN Senator; the rest are students. Student members must be in good standing as defined in Article I, section 2 of this policy.

Section 3. A quorum shall consist of 50 percent plus one of the voting members on the board at the time of the meeting. A majority vote of the voting members present is sufficient for the conduct of business.

Section 4. Professional members shall be nominated by the CSUN Executive Board after a recommendation from the Publications Board or its Chairperson and ratified by the CSUN Senate.

Section 5. Student members shall be nominated by the CSUN Executive Board and ratified by the CSUN Senate. Student members must remain in good standing the duration of their appointment.

Section 6. Non-voting members shall be the editor-in-chief of any CSUN publication.

Section 7. The Chairperson shall not be editor-in-chief of any CSUN publication.

Section 8. The Publications Board shall have the power to implement and enforce these policies.
PUBLICATIONS BOARD OPERATING POLICY.

Section 9. The Publications Board shall establish, and if necessary, amend requirements and qualifications for appointees to student publications staffs.

Section 10. The Board shall review all applications for editors-in-chief; shall nominate an editor, and submit the nomination to the Senate for approval as set out in Senate Bylaw #22.

Section 11. The Board shall censure and/or recommend the removal of editors-in-chief. Grounds for removal shall be: failure to comply with publications policies, the CSUN Constitution, UNLV administrative policies.

Section 12. Appeal of an action by the Publications Board shall be made through procedure set out in Article VI of this policy.

Section 13. The procedures for receiving official recognition to new student publications that request CSUN funding shall be as follows:

A. Petitioners will file for recognition of the new publication by submitting a prospectus, complete with budget, to the Chairperson of the Publications Board.

B. The Chairperson will be responsible for providing members of the Board with copies of the prospectus.

C. The Board shall approve or disapprove the petition.

Section 14. The Senate grants the Board the right to publish with later approval of minutes.

Section 15. The Board shall have the authority to adopt by-laws to carry out its functions. Such by-laws shall not be in conflict with these policies or the CSUN Constitution.

Section 16. The Board shall review operating policies and all CSUN publications annually to update and modify.
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