

Input desired

Cable reaches goal?

Is the Cable doing its job?

With no feedback, it is hard for editors to make judgments on the scope of Cable coverage. Is the Cable covering issues of student concern? Is the news and feature emphasis in correct proportion to student interest?

The Cable tries to comply with the dictates of good journalism: objective, accurate and fair coverage on the news and feature pages and a broad range of editorial comments on the editorial page. The Cable's goal is to keep the students informed.

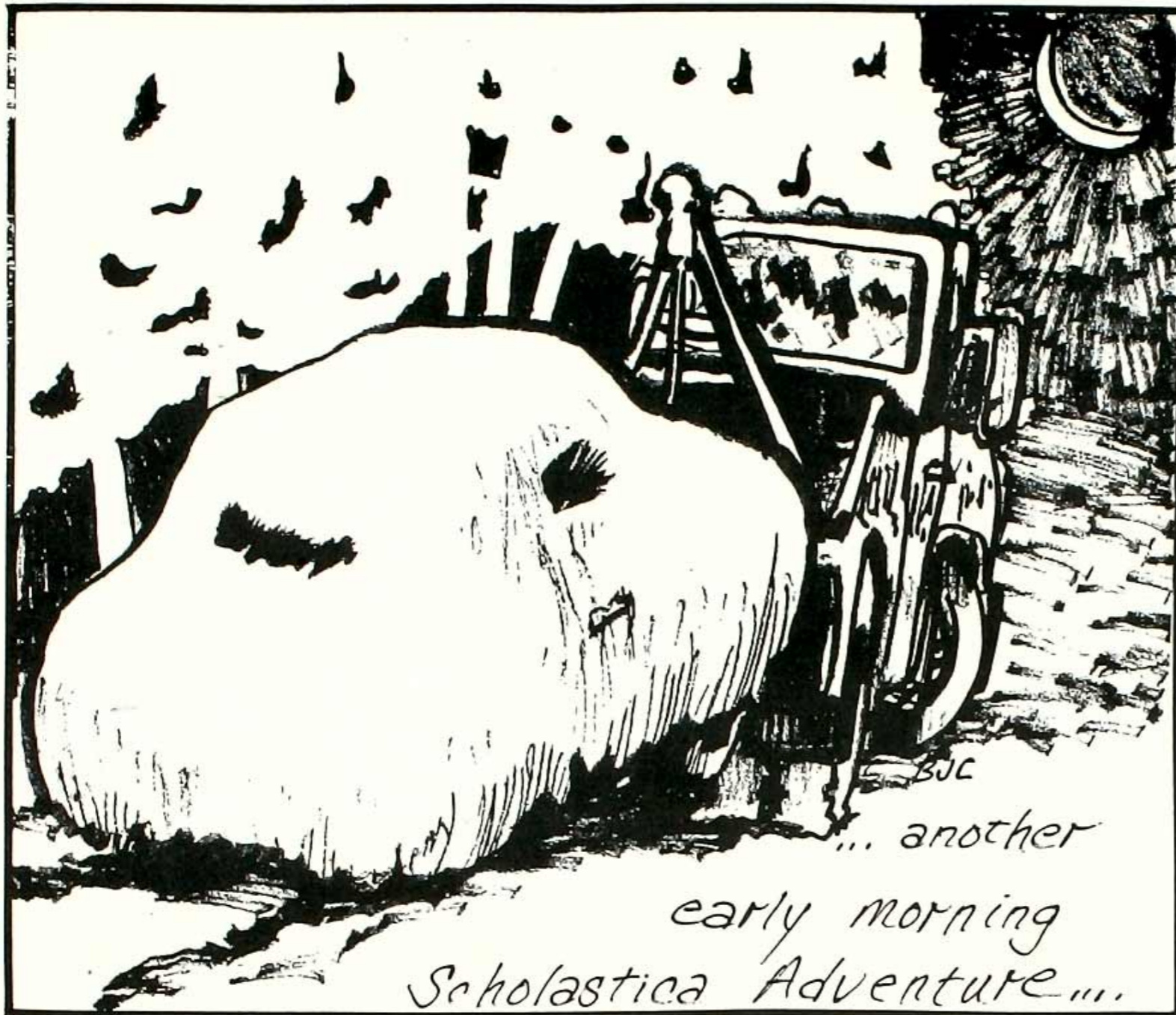
Coverage on news/features pages, for the most part, is narrowed to the Scholastica campus and to issues directly concerning students for many reasons. First of all, the Cable presents issues to students about CSS that could not be easily attained otherwise. When will dead-bolt locks be installed? Who are the leaders on campus? These are the questions the Cable answers for students.

Secondly, the Cable audience is well defined and so is the

scope of the paper. The Cable also cannot hope to cover issues that far exceed its expertise in reporting, such as international stories—there are better sources for that. Limits of space, money and personnel also restrict the range of coverage in the news pages.

The editorial page, however, is not restricted in scope. Comment on national or international, as well as Scholastica issues, is presented in the editorials and signed columns in the newspaper. In addition, the Letters column is always open for comments from Cable readers. Free exchange of ideas is one of the mandates protected by the First Amendment and it is important for students and faculty to take advantage of one of the few forums for such a public exchange.

These are the goals of the Cable. We assume we are meeting them all because we receive no comments, suggestions or letters that say otherwise.



... another early morning Scholastica Adventure...

Viewpoint

By Kenneth York
Staff Columnist

Iran's Kristallnacht

As the Iranian crisis drags into its third month and restraint begins to acquire the same connotations as appeasement, some observations come to mind:

1) The hostages cannot be "released unharmed" — being kidnapped, tied up most of the day, being allowed almost no contact with family and friends and being daily threatened is violence. The psychological damage of hours of captivity is well known (the Stockholm syndrome); the irreparable damage of months of captivity can only be guessed at, but it is certain that the hostages will carry lasting emotional scars.

The Iranians holding the Americans captive are not "students," they are terrorists. This is not a political science project, this is a violation of international and Islamic law.

Iran is not an "Islamic Republic," it is a theocratic dictatorship. A republic does not have revolutionary tribunals, does not

execute dissidents and does have elections by secret ballot. Iran is as much an Islamic Republic as China is a People's Republic — both find ideology a convenient excuse for dictatorship.

2) The Russians have long felt threatened by Moslem militants within the Soviet Union and throughout its sphere of influence. They must consider it a windfall that Khomeini has decided to vent his wrath against the Americans. In the end, Khomeini will realize his mistake: The Americans want only a stable and non-communist regime in Iran, even under a dour religious dictator. But the Soviets want to control Iran as it controls East Germany and Czechoslovakia. Of course, it's not just the Soviets who are anti-human, but they do have the clearest track record: Stalin's collectivization of the Russian peasants consumed 20 million lives; between 1939 and 1953 at least eight million were held in Soviet prison camps. Somehow this is purported to be a desirable system of government and the Soviets have pursued a

vigorous policy of exportation of puppets to rule countries unable or unwilling to institute such a system of government on their own. (Afghanistan is the most recent example of this policy.) And Khomeini will pay for his misplaced wrath when Russian tanks roll up the streets of Qum.

3) In Iran we are faced with religion turned upon itself. We are witnessing the self-destructive forces of religious fanaticism, directed by Khomeini. How is it that one man is so able to control and incite fanatical devotion to a cause that cannot succeed? Upon his raving accusation that the terrorist takeover of the mosque at Mecca was an Israeli-American plot, American flags and the American embassy in Pakistan were burned. For what purpose? For what purpose was the Kristallnacht?

Letters to the editor should be typed (double spaced), signed by the author and submitted to the Cable office by Tuesday noon. Letters should be limited to 350 words.

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CSS CABLE

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