Iannone, Carol: News Articles (1991): Letter to the Editor 02

R. D. Fulk

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ending priorities

In our May 11 editorial question ing billions of dollars to build rather than upgrading and existing roads.

In my understanding that Greene and Monroe counties, where the proposed new highway would run, would be responsible for the present needs of their security. It appears naive to suggest that money would be funding for the maintenance of a new highway. If the money is to be taken away from state aid of education and social programs?

As airth educator I am concerned about adequate funding for social programs, I understand that money for this highway might come from lottery sales. If I voted for the lottery I did it with the understanding that funds earmarked for education and welfare needs and money to build a new highway. In the counties of Greene and Monroe where many working poor who do not have health insurance and who are functionally illiterate. Profits from the lottery would be used for adequate health care and educational programs to help people improve their quality of life.

I was overwhelmed with amazement when I heard of the circumstances dealing with my neighbor's courage in going into a blazing trailer to rescue a neighbor. Greater courage hath no man - the general is surrounded with combat troops and war machinery, but this gallant person went in alone and saved a life.

He, in my opinion, warrants not only the gratitude of the population of Bloomington, but a cash award from whatever source is ready to give it.

He is a true human being, and I give him four stars.

Jessica Siebert Krueh

Why Tyrrell?

To the editor:

If you've got to add yet another conservative political columnist, why R. Emmett Tyrrell? Unlike George Will, who at least is intelligent and writes well, for persuasive Tyrrell substitutes innuendo, exaggeration, and extremism.

Tyrrell's attack on the Modern Language Association of North America is especially regretable. He calls it the academic equivalent of a left-wing Ku Klux Klan. With more than 30,000 members, the MLA is the main professional organization for scholars who teach language and literature. Most professors of English and foreign languages at IU, and other universities across the nation, belong to the MLA, and many present academic papers at the annual MLA meeting. This is not simply "an association of university scholars that patrols standards of scholarship in Academe, particularly in comparative literature," as he defines it. It's hard to believe that a newspaper in a college town would publish such distortions.

When Carol Iannone is appointed to the council of the National Endowment for the Humanities for her political views, Tyrrell perceives no double standard in accusing the MLA of political motives in opposing her appointment. If reasonable people ever had any sympathy with the ill will that's been generated over the issue of "political correctness," it's been vitiated by writers like Tyrrell, who use the issue as an excuse to flog any opposition to the Buckley agenda in the academe. As proof of the frivolousness of the MLA he offers the example of a linguistic paper on North Italian dialects read at the last MLA meeting, whose only fault, apparently, is in being too remote a subject for his palate. And yet Tyrrell sees no irony in accusing the political left of dictating what is and is not worthy of study.

Never mind the impression he gives of conservative thought in general; but you might at least care about the effect of his methods on the political process. For him there is no middle ground: those who disagree with his political agenda he characterizes not as people who might have understandable reasons for their beliefs, but as "nitwits," "knights" of a left-wing Klan, and promoters of "slander" and "infantile revolution." He is a provocateur of the sort who have robbed American political life of its vitality by making moderation and cooperation rare and difficult to achieve. As long as you publish columns like Tyrrell's, your readers don't need to hear complaints from you about the sort of unreasonable partisanship that has brought the state legislature to a standstill. It's what you've asked for.

R.D. Fulk

Neighhor a hero

To the editor:

In my humble opinion, my neighbor Donnie, of the Southcrest Mobile Home Park, is every bit as big a hero as General Norman S. Schwartzkopf.

As a former member of the Women's Army Corps, Army Air Force, I have seen my share of heroes and maladjusted Army personnel. In fact I worked under one in the JAG office who happened to be a disgruntled attorney who could not get into Officer's Candidate School, probably because he was such a jerk. He made my life miserable. He was guilty, in my opinion, of female harassment, even back then. We did not have that criteria to complain about, but believe me, we had all the other misfortunates circumstances of living in close quarters with 60 females from the New York New Jersey area.

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and spear will be strictly cash

right now, there is a family goal out there: the local family without catastrophe brings of fantasy last summer by picking up a real bullshit and a "Genuine Australian And there's nothing that'll take the fun out