



**Board of Student Communications
Colorado State University**

October 4, 2007

To: J. David McSwane,
Editor-in-chief
Rocky Mountain Collegian

The Board of Student Communications admonishes you for violations of two standards specified by the *BSC Manual* that resulted from publication of the editorial published September 21 by the *Rocky Mountain Collegian*.

The Board of Student Communications determined you violated:

- 1) Code of Ethics, Student Media, Colorado State University, (Appendix A) -- specifically Item 29: Profane, Vulgar Words, Explicit Sexual Language, subset, "Profane and vulgar words are not acceptable for opinion writing";
- 2) *Rocky Mountain Collegian* Code of Ethics (Appendix A1), specifically Item 6: Be Professional, subset, "Profane and vulgar words are not acceptable for opinion writing."

Please refer to *BSC Manual* Appendix B, Section V-G for appeal procedures.

By definition, the September 21 editorial was an expression of opinion, which we regard as protected by the First Amendment.

As editor-in-chief of the *Collegian*, you are ultimately responsible for publication.

The editorial has caused harm to the *Collegian*, Student Media, and the university community.

It is our judgment that your decision was unethical and unprofessional.

For the BSC:

(signed)
James Landers, Ph.D.,
interim president, Board of Student Communications