

# South End Freaks Ex-Editor

Karen Tintori

1967

Charging that Wayne State University's student newspaper is too leftist and "put out by left-wing radicals," a group of undergraduate students began publishing a rival daily the week of Nov. 6<sup>th</sup>.

*The South End*, WSU's official student publication, formerly known as *The Daily Collegian*, has come under attack by staffers of the competition paper, *The Phoenix*. *The South End* has been criticized as leaning heavily toward the left end of the political spectrum, concentrating on protest and anti-war movements.

"If 900 students attend a dance, it is more important than 200 students protesting on campus," said Vartan Kupelian, *Phoenix* staffer and former editor-in-chief of the *Daily Collegian*. Kupelian identified himself as Jim Thomas, managing editor of the *Phoenix*, when interviewed. He said that the *South End* is directed toward protestors, demonstrators and left-wingers.

Kupelian charged that Art Johnston, editor-in-chief of the *South End*, is overstepping his bounds by printing value judgments outside the editorial page.

"As a subjective organ, a paper's responsibility is to express its own views only on the editorial page," he said. "We intend to be completely objective, as the *Collegian* has been in the past. Granted we have been more conservative, but always strived for objectivity."

Kupelian said that the *Collegian* increased from 12,500 copies to 18,000 in the past four years. Former co-editors claim that circulation did not exceed 15,000.

Kupelian claimed that their printer, who has printed the student publication for the past 50 years and is currently printing the *South End*, advised the *Phoenix* that *South End* circulation has increased by around 3,000 copies.

However, *The South End's* circulation increase from 15,000 to 18,000 a day has only been since Johnston won a four-man race for editorship last fall.

"The students may not agree with the paper, but they're reading it," said Alan Fisk, *South End* news editor.

The *Phoenix* will be headed by Howard Gabe and Phil Mayesky, both seniors in the Business School.

Both editors, who head a staff of 20, have worked for the old *Daily Collegian*. They have received \$400 from the school of business administration and \$400 in ads. A fund has been established to collect donations from interested parties.

The *Phoenix* asked the Student-Faculty Council Budget Committee for funds, but was advised to return with a more detailed program.

Gabe said that if the paper succeeds, profits will be used to establish a scholarship.

# fifth Estate

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Fifth Estate #42, November 15-30, 1967

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