The Montclarion, November 30, 1978

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**Editor's note:**

In the light of the fact that the individuals who published this newspaper (at their own expense) are reputable student leaders, not wanting to start a war, the name MONTCLARION II has been used so as not to upset those who wished the MONTCLARION to be silenced.

We extend our never-ending thanks to the two-thirds of the SGA Legislature who tried to prevent the MONTCLARION from being trampled by the Executive Board of the SGA.

We also would like to salute the more than 20 staffers who toiled through the night without sleep to see this edition hit the stands for all students to read.

Our special thanks to Cindy Long for her spontaneous offer of assistance.

Finally, unless something happens, we would like to bid the MSC campus a fond farewell.

Questions concerning our plight can be answered by calling the SGA Office at 893-4202.

P.S.- Ironic as it may sound, Charles Sahner froze the MONTCLARION budget on Nov. 28, exactly 50 years to the day that the first student newspaper hit the stands at MSC.

Happy Birthday, Chaz.
The following is a reprint of the letter sent to Peter Baligian, Editor-in-Chief of the MONTCLARION, from SGA President Charles Sahner concerning the 'freezing' of the MONTCLARION budget.

November 29, 1978

Mr. Peter Baligian
Editor-in-Chief
MONTCLARION

Dear Peter:

Please be advised that as of 7:56 PM of above date, the budget of the MONTCLARION has been frozen. No direct expenditures or incurrences of future expense will be paid by the Student Government Association, Inc. of Montclair State College. Said freeze is in accordance with Art. VI of the Statutes and will remain in effect until further notice.

This letter was signed by Charles Sahner, President, and Keith Ansbacher, Treasurer, of the SGA.

Editor's Note:

Article VI of the Statutes

If in the opinion of the SGA President and Treasurer, an organization is illegally spending funds or disregarding policies, all funds of that organization will be frozen until action is taken by the Legislature at the next meeting. Only approved contractual agreements will be honored.
Sahner: SGA President

And early Fall, The MONTCLARION (horoscope & c.) a reputable accounting firm, announced its results of the audit early in November. But Sahner did not make the President of the SGA, Dov Tavakoli and the majority of other legs were back where they started, opposed to the freeze and no effective means to stop it.

One More

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The Day The MONTCARION Stood Still

What you are reading now has been paid for by the staff and supporters of the MONTCARION some of whom have graduated and are long gone from this campus, and most of whom did not go to sleep last night.

They were busy putting together the most important issue of the MONTCARION in MSC's history.

Charles Sahner, SGA President, decided last night to freeze the newspapers' budget, thus making it impossible for the MONTCARION staff to put out an issue.

But they would not have it. With their own money, giving up a night of sleep during the most hectic time of the semester, the MONTCARION did in fact put out a newspaper.

However, the dedication and cooperation that emerged Wednesday night is not the most outstanding point of this special issue.

The question of student leadership is.

Sahner was elected by the students to serve and protect the interests of his constituency. We believe he has failed in his sworn obligations to the students of this institution.

Is it leadership when a president invests $5,000 of student money to send the Legislature away for a weekend so that they could better understand the meaning of student government, only to silence them with bureaucratic doubletalk and "Presidential Privilege" when a situation arises that pits his decision against that of two thirds of the Legislature?

Is it leadership to halt the operation of an entire newspaper because the executives that rule wish to see if the present bookkeeping system is adequate, knowing an unofficial OK to buy and use that system from the SGA Treasurer, Keith Ansbacher?

Is it leadership to deny students the right to read about the tuition increase and how it will affect them?

Is it leadership to deny the Class One organizations advertising in the paper, where they will actually lose money?

Is it leadership to cripple the newspaper's credibility with advertisers, something that is not common among college newspapers, but extremely prevalent in the MONTCARION... until now?

Is it leadership to deny the college the privilege of boasting that the MONTCARION's reputation, proven to be of All-American calibre in the Associated Collegiate Press rating, is for all intents and purposes now lost?

Is it leadership to use ambiguous passages in the SGA Constitution to freeze the funds of the only vehicle, aside from WMSC—FM, that gives the students the insight into their college campus?

Is it leadership to let the MONTCARION staff lay out and paste up over 80% of the paper, do all the research for the articles, only to have an impersonal memo sent three hours before the paper is put to bed stating that the funds have been frozen?

Is it leadership to deny the All-American rating to the MONTCARION, which, for all intents and purposes, has already been done?

But most of all, is it leadership to feel above all law, to violate some of the most sacred rights guaranteed by the Constitution of the US, that is Freedom of Speech, and Freedom of the Press?

We think not.

The mere existence of this special issue demonstrates our real concern for the future of this newspaper, and the future of student government at MSC itself.

We believe that Charles Sahner has not acted in the best interests of the students. Moreover, we believe that he has actually done injustice and harm to the students of this campus.

We believe this so strongly, that we put our own time and money into this publication.

We can only hope that someone will hear us.