

November 6, 1956

FACULTY SKETCH.....

MEET Mr. MCKINSTRY

By G. Opilla

With a blair of trombones, we usher in our first faculty sketch, Mr. McKinstry, who is an avid jazz fan. The Highacres Sociology and Psychology professor is an accomplished trombone player who during his student days at Alfred University, N.Y., entertained the crowd as a member of a hot jazz combo. In his days as a foot soldier in Uncle's Infantry, he raised Cain in his regimental band. Since this was during WW II, the Army had no use for a progressive trombone player and Mr. McKinstry found himself in the honorable field of radio operating, where he invented a morse code jazz improvisation on his telegraph key that drove the enemy crazy.

We find that Mr. McKinstry is just as accomplished along academic lines as he is with his trombone. He has acquired his BA and MA from Alfred University and has taken courses at Syracuse University toward his PhD. A native of Rochester, N.Y., Mr. McKinstry has been employed by the Western Electric Corporation as a training and testing supervisor.

At home, you are apt to find him relaxing to the strains of Woody Herman, and being fondly attended to by his wife and two charming little daughters, who still demand an occasional trombone solo from their daddy.

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STAFF THIS ISSUE

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ACADEMIC PROBATION

Pennsylvania State University law states that students who fail 35 percent of their credits for any semester, and who are not dropped because their all-university average does not fall below 1.65, will be placed on academic probation.

All students whose all-university average falls below 1.65 are also placed on probation. If a student's average falls below 1.5, and the student has not had a 2.2 or better for his "most recent" semester or a 2.0 or better for "each of his two most recent semesters," he will be dropped from the University.

Under the old grading system, a student was required to maintain a grade of .65 or better. The old .65 is now equal to the 1.65 stated in the University law. At the same time, 1.5 is equivalent to .5 under the old system and 2.2 is equal to 1.2.

The difference in these grades is due to the fact that our grading system is now based on the numbers from zero to four, while the old system was from a minus two to a plus three.

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The Russian school teacher asked a pupil who the first humans were. "Adam and Eve," the kid replied. "And what nationality were they?" "Russian, of course," said the kid. "And how do you know?" asked the teacher. "Easy," the kid replied, "They had no roof over their heads, no clothes to wear, and only one apple between the two of them - and they called it Paradise!"

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