

# CAPITOL CAMPUS READER

Vol. 6 No. 17

Capitol Campus

Penn State University

March 3, 1977



For all students desiring pre-exam meditation, the temple and this icon will be available prior to March 16th.

## Unit Term Systems Are Surveyed

By Brian McDonough

Implications of proposed changes in the Capitol Campus unit and term systems were illustrated by a recent study of 40 state colleges and universities conducted by Prof. J.T. Redington of the Computer Science Department.

Of 36 state colleges surveyed on the semester system the average length in time was Fall - 13.0 weeks, Spring 13.6 weeks. Of four colleges surveyed on the term system the average was Fall 9.4 weeks, Winter 9.2 weeks and Spring 9 weeks.

The present Capitol Campus term length is ten weeks, and proposed changes include a proposal for a 16 week semester.

If the unit/term system is changed at Capitol Campus, the following combinations of course loads are possible: presently the three units/term, nine units/year totals nine courses taken in the sequence of three/term.

If a three credit course/term system is adopted, or 30 credits/year, a total of ten courses in a possible sequence of three-three-four would result.

If a three credit/semester system is adopted, 30 credits/year, a sequence of five and five would total the ten courses required.

For a four credit/semester system there would be 36 credits a year for a total of nine courses in the possible sequence of five - four.

A three credit system would increase the number of courses needed to be taken to progress normally, and the student workload would seem to increase by the number of courses taken at a time and not credit or unit hours earned.

Implications for graduate students are illustrated by the fact that for Winter term '77 25% of grad students take one course in the evening per term for three courses a year. Under a three credit semester system with a 60 credit a year, that is, one courses per semester, if they would still carry one course at a time.

Extending Spring break (an argument for changing the present term system) could also be accomplished by extending graduation time in June.

## \$2,000,000 Gym Near Completion

By Young Inyang

The new two-million-dollar Capitol Campus gymnasium will be ready for use shortly.

According to the Dean of Student Affairs, Dr. James D. South, the Department of General Services "may turn over the gym to the University any time now."

After this, Dr. South estimated, it may take a couple of weeks to move in equipment and finally operate in the new building.

Work on the outside is not yet complete, but most of the interior work is done and surely the gym will be "partially usable in the Spring" according to Dr. South.

Facilities in the gym include: four courts for handball; racket or paddle ball; the main 1100-seat gym with basketball; badminton; volley ball; indoor running; archery and indoor golf courses.

There are also four office areas that will accommodate the admissions, placement, continuing education, and financial aid offices.

In the multipurpose wing, there will be facilities for various activities; exercises, karate, and weight lifting.

There is a vending machine area in the basement, and also two lockerroom areas.

Work on the gym started 16 months ago, and according to Dr. South is ahead of schedule so far. It was estimated to be completed by May 26, 1977.

Neither Dr. South nor Mr. Bud Smitley, the Director of Athletics, could say what the gym schedule will be but according to Mr. Smitley, "it will be more often opened than closed."

## Weekend Weather

There's a chance of rain for Friday with the overnight lows somewhere between the mid 20's and low 30's. It will be clear Saturday and not so cold; the temperature will be around 50 degrees, and around 30 Saturday night. Sunday will be much the same as Saturday except a day later.