

PENN STATE COLLEGIAN

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MONDAY EVENING, NOVEMBER 27, 1933

NO VINDICATION NEEDED

Director Bezdek, in an interview published last issue, expressed his belief that the athletic policy has been vindicated by the fifty percent record of the football team this season. The Penn tie indicated that football here is definitely on the upswing, he said.

In this particular instance, it is difficult to see the logic in the Director's conclusions. The three victories were victories over three admittedly weak teams. Two of the defeats were at the hands of much better teams. The tie was probably the result of an inspired team playing up to the Franklin field tradition, rather than a team seeking to vindicate the athletic policy.

There is no fault to find, however, with Director Bezdek's sympathy for the athletic policy. As he says, "student attitude toward victory and defeat has changed to a more philosophical trend." Students are beginning to see the merit in an athletic program which seeks to take some of the air out of the old intercollegiate athletics balloon by putting football on a truly amateur basis. There is a certain satisfaction in knowing that this College is in the vanguard of the movement to make intercollegiate athletics something more than contests between hired men.

In this respect, therefore, the athletic policy of non-subsidization needs no vindication. The number of victories made under it depends to a large extent upon the number of colleges and universities on the schedule which have the same policy. Victories and hard-won ties, of course, may gain sympathy for the policy, and in that sense "vindicate" it. But winning, in the last analysis, does not make the plan right. The essential rightness of the policy is evident, regardless of victories. Its popularity alone depends on the latter.

IN THE LETTER BOX this issue, a student complains of the discrimination implied by the Interfraternity Council's attempt to raise the scholarship of fraternity men, while disregarding that of non-fraternity men. However, it is likely that no discrimination was intended by the Council. It is merely interested in improving the scholarship of its members. There is now a Non-Fraternity Association which could do the same thing for non-fraternity men as the Council is attempting to do for members of fraternities. And the School of Education would probably be quite willing to aid a similar effort on the part of a non-fraternity group. It remains for the non-fraternity men to give their cooperation and support to the formation and work of their new association, instead of expecting the Interfraternity Council to do something for them. No discrimination is involved; it is merely a question of delegation of powers.

INDEPENDENT WORK

No students have taken advantage of the ruling permitting independent work in Liberal Arts courses this semester, according to Dean Stoddart. Lack of interest on the part of the students and on the part of the faculty is cited as the reason.

Undoubtedly, a majority of the students, including the ones with high averages, are interested in doing just enough work to get a certain grade. They are obsessed with the apparent importance of a numerical grade. If they can get that grade without doing this independent work, they feel that it would be an added and useless burden to assume. Of course, they lose sight of the real purpose of academic instruction, which is not to give the student a grade, but to improve him intellectually. And most students, knowing that they will be judged by their numerical grade, hesitate to assume added work which may be of doubtful benefit to their "average." This is especially true in important lecture courses in which the assuming of independent work does not give the student the inclination to "cut" lectures in order to do this work.

Then some of the blame can be laid to the faculty. If a professor feels that he has something to say (and what one doesn't?) he will not be so willing to see his students cut classes in order to pursue independent work. Furthermore, such a plan may mean more work for the already-overburdened professor in the way of conferences, reading reports, etc.

But these are not justifications for the existing attitude; they are just explanations. Students ought to be interested in improving themselves intellectually, regardless of the grade or work. And professors ought to be interested in aiding their students to do so, regardless of the added burden on themselves. But if they aren't, then the independent work plan, or any other similar plan, will never gain wide acceptance. It is commendable, though, that the School has been liberal enough to give its students the opportunity to advance, and it is to be hoped that some students will take advantage of this liberality before the semester is over.

OLD MANIA

Flywheel has five pups. Flywheel belongs to a man named Dickson who teaches Art. She is part Chow and part Irish, and was brought to State College by a football captain named Collins. When Collins left last spring he gave her to some people named Stuart; they gave her to some people named James. When she lived at James' she chased chickens so they gave her to the man named Dickson.

Flywheel liked it at Dickson's. There were no chickens, they had a fireplace, and youngsters, and a gentleman dog lived next door who was so Irish he smoked a cornob. She liked the Irishman especially. Flywheel has five pups. One of them is a lady pup.

"We like the manner in which the W. S. G. A. does business. When a girl is turned in for some offense her name is brought up at a Senate meeting and that body decides on her punishment. She never knows who turns her in, nor does she have a chance to defend herself or to say whether or not the accusation is true.

"It's too bad that the courts in this country don't use this system. We'd turn in the R.O.T.C. Dean Grant, Franklin D. Roosevelt, and a lot of the local celebrities for something or other.

"But on the other hand the system isn't totally efficient. They ought to read up a little on the Spanish Inquisition. Perhaps they'd get some ideas on how to run a real governmental machine."

—W. V. K. '34.

We notice that "the right kind of a boy" for which John Henry Frizzell advertised has finally moved into the "right kind of a room". May we offer our congratulations, Mr. Burke?

When Barney Graves' Argumentation class came to a smashing finale the other day and the class started to leave, one lad was left sound asleep in the front row. Several of his friends started toward him to wake him, glancing rather sheepishly at Barney the while. But that gentleman was more than equal to the occasion.

He placed his finger to his lips and beckoned to the class; softly, very softly, they tip-toed from the room, leaving the weary one to slumber on in the silent, deserted depths of the Home Economics building.

We'd like to do some glancing. At the class in Natchrill Dancing.

Johany Rathmell, Sigma Chi, is very, very bewildered. He had a date last week-end with a nice Penn co-ed who is somewhat of a shot at that institution. He sat down on Tuesday to write her an apology for his rather eccentric behavior on said date. He'd just about finished the letter when a freshman brought him his mail. In it was a note from the daughter of old Pennsylvania apologizing for her actions on that historic night.

Dredgings

Note from Mr. Schmidt to Mr. Hines... "will you please return my double-breasted tux coat which you borrowed for Jane Town's dance?"... Jack Ryan held up as an example of studiousness and activity in a Phi Mu meeting... Bovard Tomlinson in a dressmaking class... Ex-State Munch advertising Plymouths in *Colliers*... Chuck Humphries and Fay Christine hiking to Boalsburg at ungodly hours... the daughter of the General Adviser to the King of Siam is a co-ed-heah... Nittany (Spe) Lyons and Gretchen Stewart dancing Saturday night... the Chi Os are beginning to look around for sheets to be used in their initiation.

—THE MANIAC.

INTRAMURAL SWIMMING, MIT TOURNEYS TO START DEC. 7

Both the intramural swimming and boxing tournaments will start on Thursday, December 7, according to the managers of those sports. There will be a meeting of representatives from houses planning to enter the swimming tournament in Old Main at 7:30 o'clock next Monday night, at which time the entrance fee of one

dollar should be paid. All men planning to enter the boxing tournament must weigh in at Recreation hall from 12 to 1:30 o'clock and from 4 to 5 o'clock the first three days of next week, and an entrance fee of twenty-five cents must be paid at Miss Keller's office before Wednesday noon, December 6. Any number of men may enter from one house or unit, but each entrant must have a physical examination before the tournament opens.

YOUNG PLANS NEW COURSE

A course in air conditioning, for students enrolled in home study courses, is being prepared by Prof. William R. Young, of the engineering extension department.

2 I. M. MANAGERS CHOSEN

Joseph C. Bone '35 has been named intramural swimming manager, and Robert C. Stine '35 has been selected as intramural boxing manager, according to Charles R. Gies '34, winter sports manager.

2 BIG DANCE NITES THIS WEEK!
Kishacoquillas Heated Ballroom, Lewistown
WEDNESDAY NITE DANCE
 THANKSGIVING EVE. FROLIC—PRESENTING THE CAMPUS OWLS
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ROAST PRIME RIB OF BEEF AU JUS

MASHED POTATOES CANDIED SWEET POTATOES
 CREAMED SILVER ONIONS

HUBBARD SQUASH GREEN PEAS
DINNER ROLLS SWEET ROLLS

PEACH MELBA SALAD HEARTS OF LETTUCE
 CREAM, FRENCH OR RUSSIAN DRESSING

PUMPKIN PIE HOT MINCE PIE
FRENCH VANILLA ICE CREAM, CHOCOLATE SAUCE

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 MIXED FRUIT MIXED NUTS

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