

PENN STATE COLLEGIAN

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PURGING PROFESSIONALISM IN COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Such is the unfinished debate now in the record books of college football teams throughout the country despite the fact that the 1939-40 football year ended in a blaze of bowl battles that drew more cash spectators than ever before.

Some light from another angle has been thrown on the controversy by an editorial in "The Patriot," of Harrisburg Commenting on the Harvard, Yale, and Princeton compact to assure amateurism in their athletic program, the editorial reads:

"These are admirable ideals in the scheme of higher education, first things are put first. Finer objectives for a university athletic program are difficult to find. "And just because amateur sport is the objective of this program, one wonders why it should be side-tracked by the apparent reluctance of the college presidents to insist on an agreement to take the paid professional coach off the players' bench during the games, losing him in the bleachers or putting him some place where there could be no coaching from the side-lines."

"After all, unless some such thing is done, professionalism will not be eliminated from college football nor can the game be given whole-heartedly to the students for the development of those traits of leadership, quick thinking and resourcefulness which are the potential products of football. Today few persons will deny that the players are mere puppets in the hands of the coach."

"Nothing is gained for the realities to deny that the coach, sitting on the players' bench, runs the game for the team. So long as the rules permit him to order and make substitutions, so long will he take away from the captain and team members the direction and strategy of the game, thereby robbing them of that experience in leadership which belongs to the student."

"What we have in our games today are two highly paid coaches sitting on opposite sides of the field, directing the play. If this is not professionalism, what is it?"

The editorial delves further into the discussion of sideline coaching and continues with: "So long as such direction can come from the sidelines, the coach and not the team is in large measure laying out the strategy of the game. If the welfare of the students and the best standards of amateur sports are to prevail, the players should have the best possible coaching on the practice field as they are entitled to the best possible instruction in the class room and laboratory."

"But upon the day of the game as upon the day of examination, then the strategy and direction of the game should be turned over to the captain and his team mates. "When this happy stage is reached... one can feel that the last remnant of professionalism will disappear from the game and the captain and his team will not only play but direct the game and love it."

"Furthermore the coach himself will profit by being relieved of sideline coaching. Under the present system he more than the team is held responsible for defeat or victory. Under the pressure of alumni to win at any cost and to safeguard his professional career he feels obliged to direct the game's play."

"Leave the strategy to the captain and his team by abolishing sideline coaching and the outcome of the game would rest more with the team and less with the coach and that is where responsibility should rest if the spirit of amateur sport is to prevail."

"That arrangement would relieve the coach of much of the criticism now directed at him and reduce the number of "headhunters" who always appear after a series of defeats. It is the team and not the coach which makes amateur sport."

CAMPUSEER

BY HIMSELF

A Short Yell "Leap Week"...

Orchids, please Yes, we said orchids, and plenty of them, for Ann Borton and her "Leap Week" plan which met with wsga senate's solid approval Tuesday night. According to Annie's clever figurin', which Campy predicts will become fact, the last week in February will be entirely "leap", with co-eds doing the dating as well as the paying.

Via The Nations Press...

Last week "Look" magazine published a smarty-pants letter from fidele Don "Pappy" Scheuer, who finds himself spitefully out-wiseguided by the mag.

Wrote Scheuer "Phi Delta Theta is proud of its paddle swingers. Therefore we balk at the aim of Northwestern's Phil Cooper as pictured in Look of Nov 21. It's not 'to the point'." Look's editor published the picture along with one of a Dennison U fidele apparently missing his mark, by as wide a margin.

...and The Prexy Laughed!

Prexy and his staff have been chuckling all week about this one.

One of the Pittsburgh rags this week carried a big story on Chancellor Bowman's plans for a six million expansion of Pitt's physical plant. The article was long, almost a column, leaving only a half inch of space at the bottom, which carried this bit of appropriate boilerplate:

"Of the 20,000 eggs which the mother lobster lays annually, only about 20 live to maturity."

Via the New York Times...

Despite the public information department, State hit the drama section of the Times twice last Sunday.

Our own Alexander Gray '16, one of the nation's top baritones, is in the limelight. Alec is the only white man in the cast of "John Henry," Paul Robeson's starring vehicle.

And the other mention is a whacky one. James Thurber, in a 6-column cartoon, shows the characters of "The Male Animal" in action. The old man posed with a goblet behind his head is demonstrating how he and his Northwestern mates once used the Statute of Liberty play in downing Penn State, 21-6.

State never played Northwestern, as far as we know. Reminds us of the recent boxing story in a popular magazine, which tells of the hero winning the collegiate championship at Penn State "in his last week of college."

Headless Wonders:

Prof. Bill Gaskill experienced a quick mental return to his newspaper days when he got this last paragraph on a freshman theme last week: "Ever since I came to college this semester I've been writing themes. I'm damned sick of writing themes. In fact I'm goddamned sick of writing themes."

In case you've never noticed, a hall has BLUE window shades. Of course they may have been placed there just to harmonize with the red brick, BUT

It's a Pennsylvania Dutch custom to announce an eligible daughter by painting the door BLUE probably on the theory that it's better to have a blue door than a blue daughter!

Included in the current art show in main eng is a nude posed by an unidentified co-ed, also paintings of Charlie Spindel and Herb Nipson. The frigmakappers deny the Maniac's statement that they laxtivated the pika lad's puppy. The frigs blame it on the tacheti freshman class and we always thought he was a nice guy!

Despite slight competition provided by some brawl called pan-hel, the sigmapsi's will stage a "Joe College" hop tonight to the tune of the Campus Owls (they advertised once) the loudest costume gets a prize.

ABOUT THE CORNER

Almost every four years, the management at the CR decides that the atmosphere needs a little brushing up and during Christmas vacation the carpenters go to work and do a little face-lifting. Four years ago, the new room—where repose all the pics of Penn State greats—was opened.

This time, the entrances are getting the work-out. Drafts, which made the booths near the front door uncomfortable, have been eliminated by the installation of a revolving door. Just like in the cities, boys.

Those back-breaking steps up to the second floor lobby (the place where you buy the bus tickets) are being eliminated and a more gradual stairway will be erected a few feet farther west (west is toward Pine Grove Mills) on College avenue. The lobby on the second floor will be enlarged about thirty-percent, by this change.

On the outside, that peaked tower will be taken down and a chimney erected. The whole building will be painted white and green shutters added. Colonial is the idea.

Having got the bug after seeing Princeton and Williamsburg, several local businessmen thought they would like to see State College work toward the goal of having colonial buildings in the business section. The hotel idea is a step in that direction. (adv.)

Faculty Poll

Continued From Page 1

er or not the survey is successful depends on how the results are used, but it can't do much harm. Dean Edward P. Steidle of the School of Mineral Industries also rendered a favorable decision, but specified that the questionnaire would have to be revised for a technical school such as Mineral Industries.

Helpful Ideas By Trabue Helpful suggestions were made by Dr. Marion R. Trabue, dean of the School of Education, who said, "In general, it is a very satisfactory idea, but I am afraid it is not entirely scientific. The survey would be most useful to instructors who would see themselves as others see them."

"A survey of the opinion of students of a man does not necessarily alter his value to the institution or to science," Dean Trabue explained. "However, there is no doubt that it would instigate instructors to plan their work more carefully."

"Should Prove Useful" "The plan should be developed so that it would show matters of fact about an instructor and what he or she does or does not do. If the administrator appreciates the fact that the survey is not final judgment of whether or not a professor should be retained or not, it will prove very useful and some very reliable information should be gathered," Dr. Trabue said.

Dean Frank C. Whitmore of the School of Chemistry said, "I will get as much amusement out of reading the results of this survey as you will, but the plan has been tried at numerous other institutions and has never done any harm or good."

Letter Box

To the Editor: Penn State Collegian

"Canon, not, butler!" Hitler decreed for the Germans two years ago and we all clicked our tongue and said to each other how glad we were to live in America where "nobody goes hungry."

"Bullets, not bread" President Roosevelt recommended last week in his budget message and we all nodded our heads and agreed, "Of course we'll never get into the war, but we must be prepared."

Hitler could be forthright in his decree, but Mr. Roosevelt, depending upon votes to approve his program could scarcely come out and say exactly what he meant. But by asking nearly two billion dollars for national defense and less than a billion-and-a-half for relief, he left no doubt that he considers our need for guns more pressing than for shelter, clothing, and food, despite his previous solicitude for the "ill-housed, ill-clothed, and ill-fed."

Apparently it is now the army and navy which are ill-equipped, ill-provided, and ill-prepared.

What Does It Mean? And exactly what meaning does all this have for the American college student of 1940?

Well, in the summer of 1936, just before I took over the editorship of the COLLEGIAN, I spoke with Kyle Crichton, one of the editors of Colliers, about the problems facing student editors. We went through the usual discussions of firing the coach, cleaning up campus politics, and allowing co-eds to drink. Then Crichton said:

"One of these days, there'll be a real war and if we get into it, you boys in college and all the other young fellows your ages will be the ones to fight it. When that happens, all your nice little editorials about graft on the dance committees and incompetent on the coaching staff will be pretty damn unimportant. Those of us who were in college in 1914 thought the war in Europe had no personal meaning for us. In 1917 we found out differently."

Duty To Seives "If college editors and campus leaders and informed students and professors have one duty to themselves and to the millions of young people in this country, it is to see that America never again engages in an imperialistic war."

I suppose there is no one in this country today suggesting that we get into the war and only a few "alarmists"—like myself perhaps—who seem to think that we will, but unless some people, high in the government, consider such action a strong possibility, what's all the "preparing" for?

If the present undercover peace overtures should finally result in a cessation of hostilities or if England and France finally win or if both sides fight themselves into utter exhaustion, there is no conceivable reason for our national defenses to be stronger than they are today. But should England go to the rescue of "brave little Finland"—for which Herbert Hoover is working as vigorously as he did for Belgium in 1914—or should Germany unleash all her military and air might in the hope of a quick victory, then what?

Are these the possibilities for

Emory Comments Student Attitude In Staff Report

Changes in Policy Bring Morale Improvement; Need Additional Officers

A "high state of morale" prevalent in the ROTC cadet corps this year has been attributed by Col. Ambrose R. Emery, head of the military department, "partly to the seriousness of the international situation and partly to changes in policy recently made by the department."

Recognition of the improved student attitude toward ROTC was made by Colonel Emery in his semi-annual report on the department's activities prepared last week for President Hetzel.

Changes in policy which had helped improve the morale of the cadet corps, Colonel Emery said, were replacement of worn and unsightly uniforms by new or serviceable and better fitting articles, change in the basic course text which reduces the cost from \$4 to \$1.50 for infantry and \$1.60 for engineers, change in the "make-up" policy to hold the student accountable for subject matter missed rather than hours missed, increased interest in the Pershing Rifle company and establishment of a Pershing Rifle unit at Mont Alto. The 2 to 4 p m instruction periods will be changed next semester to 1 to 3 p m.

In his semi-annual report, Colonel Emery also indicated that a new unit—either motorized field artillery or anti-aircraft coast artillery—was being considered for the corps next year.

US GALS

"Neatest mistake of the New Year arrived at the Pride of Penn State—our beautiful, almost new dormitory—the other day, addressed to "African Hall." Gee, all we need now are cages and a keeper. Next thing we know, grammar school lads and lassies will be offering us peanuts through the first floor windows.

"The administration was asking for trouble when it put all those stone benches around the new library. When spring comes, it's going to take a powerful lot of electricity to keep that corner of the campus properly illuminated."

Campus opinion seems to be that no faculty in the school spends more time on sick leave than that in the Home Ec department—and yet no faculty is so insistent about oversteering the line of no class excuses. Who says they're not human? It's the old story of "Don't do as I do, but, darn it, you'd better do as I say."

Queer how few coeds are built to wear ski pants and look like anything more graceful than Gay Nineties Bloomer-Girls or Stuffed Teddy Bears. Yet we see them not only in the snow where they belong, but also at dormitory dinner.

With all of the current cuts, bruises, sprained ankles, taped wrists, stove fingers, damaged knees, broken arms, and even crutches around campus, it looks as if the German army just marched through Winter spots are certainly had 'em on adhesive tape.

Women students—and especially sorority women—are becoming very religious and athletically-minded these days. The Panhellenic ruling that sorority rushes may be escorted to athletic events and to chapel wouldn't have anything to do with this—or would it?

Just think—someday we'll be able to look at the beautiful mural in Old Main lobby and say to ourselves, "My, my, isn't it wonderful! And to think we knew it when!"

"When" being when it was just a canvas curtain over the main stairway that made us detour past Grounds and Bldgs and the Women's Rest Room to get to our class on third floor.

Co-Edits

J. K. Virginia Barger '41, Betty L. Zeigler '42, Eleanor C. Horsthemke '42, and Elsie Gabrielsen '42 will be initiated Chi Omega's Sunday Theta Phi Alpha's will entertain Mrs. C. D. Briggs, Mrs. John G. Gibbons, Mrs. E. M. Grove, Mrs. Joseph Nagette, Mrs. David Rix, Mrs. Norm Whitman, Mrs. Mary McCormick, Miss Ida Parent, Mrs. E. M. Broderick, and Mrs. Dean Haley, patronesses, Sunday.

Emanon will conduct services at the Hill Foundation at 7:30 p m Sunday. Escorts of Delta Gamma's will be parted after the Panhellenic dance.

Former Dean Will Speak

Miss Louise Pfuetze, former dean of women at Whittier College in California and present regional secretary of the Student Christian Movement, will speak to freshman women after a dinner in Mac Hall at 6 p m Monday. The dinner, sponsored by PSCA Freshman Forum and WSGA Freshman Council, is being given to promote better class spirit.

Backenstose Announces Plans For Book Exchange

With early results of the poll indicating an overwhelming favorable attitude, the Book Exchange committee is going ahead with plans for next semester, it has been announced by co-chairman Thomas C. Backenstose '41.

The exchange will be held in the library basement as formerly and will be open January 25 to February 1, from 1 to 5 p m, and February 5 to 14, from 10 a. m. to noon and from 1 to 5:30 p. m.

PET PEEVES

Editor's note: This column is devoted to those men who have long had an axe to grind about women. Lend them an ear!

My pet peeve against Penn State co-eds is in a state of suspension since workmen barricaded the second floor lounge of Old Main with canvas and temporarily closed up Burlesque Balcony.

That was a bad spot, too, because campus boys of all ages missed steps, twisted ankles, and even fell flat on their faces. Those steps are hard enough to navigate without distractions.

But, as I say, that is gone, perhaps for good, and there is always a runner-up, peeve. And, perhaps, one to show.

My second-place peeve is the common unpleasantness of the average co-ed's voice. The discomfort of noises that grate on the ear when coeds open their mouths can be appreciated best by those who have long overheard and evaded them. I actually stop in my tracks or turn and gaze with admiration when I hear a pleasant or golden co-ed voice.

That may seem like piffle to you girls until you take a moment (as you won't) to think on it. You have the idea now that, if you dress alluringly and daub your face deftly and learn how to dance gracefully you'll get along. And so you do. But what co-ed doesn't—at Penn State?

What you need to do is take a long look ahead. Some fine day not too far distant you'll be wanting to burn somebody's toast. And after a few years of it, you'll be asking:

"I wonder why in the hell Jim don't like me, enymore?"

And you'll be giving yourself, one of the answers. Pretty clothes and a glistening marcel and a neatly inscribed face get to be matter-of-fact unappreciated stuff after a while, but a pleasing voice will cover a multitude of crooked seams.

Maybe you're a squeaky little mouse or a WJZ with all the juice on. Maybe you're a word-slurder or a verb muncher. Perhaps you talk out of the side pocket of your lip. Or, if you're conscious of your defect and trying to correct it, you may be writing every letter slowly with your tongue, a habit just as disturbing as the others.

Whatever your defect you can smooth it out, with care and practice. And you'll have for yourself a practical asset, a little extra feature that will appeal to the boys in the marriage market.

Penn State, I'm afraid, has not been voice-conscious enough. We have had beauty queens, and popularity contests, and best-dressed prizes. Let's forget Miss Beautiful for a while and concentrate on Miss Easy-On-The-Ear!

CINEMANIA

About a year ago, "Brother Rat," dealing with the adventures and misadventures of a trio of V.M.I. cadets and their rule-breaking prom dates, entertained movie-goers "Brother Rat and a Baby," showing at the Cathaum tomorrow.

Monday and Tuesday, picks up the same youngsters a year later and gives us another chapter in their checkered careers.

Peter B. Good, the gentleman in the three-cornered pants who plays the second half of the title role, is the cutest, sauciest, and trouble-making youngster you'll ever see. His dad, Eddie Albert, and his ma, Jane Bryan, are the same couple who played in "Brother Rat."

Piscella Lane and Wayne Morris also take up their romance where they left it in the original picture, as do Jane Wyman and Ronald Reagan.



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