

# THE DAILY COLLEGIAN

"For A Better Penn State"

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Saturday, August 8, 1942

## Grand Finale

With the closing of Summer Band School, Penn State will miss its daily 9 o'clock reveille, and once again students will be able to make their class on time. But above all, those high school kids did an impressive job, especially when it came to giving the campus a shot of morale each morning.

Without that short parade and ceremony, Penn State would have been robbed of several incidents which help show the true picture of a war-time campus.

Who could forget the morning when one gentleman scurried up the front walk and into Old Main, while everyone else was standing at attention during the playing of "The Star-Spangled Banner"? As an aftermath of that incident, everyone recalls what happened immediately afterward in the Sandwich Shop when one member of the Administration hotly reprimanded that individual who had ignored his patriotic duty to our Flag and Country.

Who could forget those bright, sunny mornings when hundreds of students interrupted their mad dash to class, so they could watch those high school kids give out with their music and marching. After watching the Stars and Stripes being unfurled as the climax to the ceremonies, one student casually admitted, "Makes me feel like going to the recruiting office instead of my 9 o'clock class." So maybe one author was correct when he said that if we take away all the bands, we would finally create a warless world.

We won't take time to question the value of such a statement as that, but we will repeat, that the high school kids did a commendable job and added an extra touch to Penn State life that most of us would not have been able to enjoy, had it not been for the accelerated Summer semester.

## Backfire From The Dorms

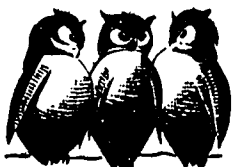
Coupled with the fact that a decided amount of tension was already prevalent in the dorms, our editorial, "Outbursts From The Dorms," backfired with terrific force in several instances.

It is generally agreed from all fronts, however, that our attack was not aimed at dorm men in general, but just at the small minority group of 10 or 15 who were threatening to "take matters into their own hands" with regard to the College proposal of giving the men's dorms over to women at the beginning of the Fall semester.

We realize that there is no authority in charge of dorms at present. We also realize fully that the majority of dorm men feel they may suffer both directly and indirectly for any drastic actions that the minority group may take in gaining so-called revenge against the College's recent proposal.

Through yesterday's editorial, we were attempting to prevent the drastic action that was threatened by the minority group—and there is no doubt that such threats were being made.

On the other hand, the majority have already pledged their support of the College's proposal and should be commended for making the sacrifice in the best interests of Penn State. It has also been suggested that some organized group—such as the



And Having Writ,  
Moves On . . .

## Hell Week . Be Damned

With fraternity participation in Victory week-end activities still reverberating as many of their lawn displays are still visible, it somehow seems small and mean to accuse them of not taking the war seriously enough. But that is just what we are doing. Meaning that in our opinion, Hell Week is downright disloyal.

Why Hell Week anyhow? Accomplishing nothing beyond satiating the sadistic impulses of the "worldly" upperclassmen in normal times, now it is diametrically opposed to the very ideals that prompted this institution to have an accelerated program.

From a period of three days to a week, fraternities—which broaden the green frosh into cultured gentlemen—indulge in some of the vilest, filthiest practices in the name of "informal initiations." No need to go into specific instances, these practices are known to everybody and have been tolerated in the past with an indulgent whimsicality that is positively sickening.

And—the height of something or other is the story of several "war" frosh who are being ostracized and have been asked to de-pledge their fraternities for refusing to submit themselves to the indignities of Hell Week. Poor, misguided frosh! Their story was that they thought they came to Summer school and incidentally gave up their vacations because their country said it was "the student's part in the war effort to complete his education as rapidly as possible."

## Mene, Mene, Tekel Upharsin

Fraternity heads may be blind not to see the handwriting on the wall that is bound to appear should certain events—such as, the further falling-down of grades—appear. Dean Steidle's plea to cut down on extra-curricular activities need not be taken too seriously if "activities" like Hell Week are cut out first. Maybe we're wrong, but we feel that extra-curricular activities are an integral part of college life, while Hell Week ceremonies are definitely not. And that goes in spades!

Several fraternities have cut out these informal initiations of the hellish nature. We don't know their names, but if we did we would print them in bold face, capital letters. We further hope that these enlightened Houses append to that decision—Out For The Duration.

No fault of the pledges, the disgusting practices they are forced to go through violate all the laws of common decency and fair play, to all intents and purposes. When a freshman is paddled so hard that a bone in his back is broken, as was the case in one instance, then it is high time to stop preaching abolition and practice abstinence.

To sum it up—HELL WEEK BE DAMNED!  
—RUSTUM

(By Associated Collegiate Press)

NEW YORK—As evidence of changing educational trends, the study of mathematics led all new course enrollments during the year just closed in colleges and universities, a study just completed by Investors Syndicate discloses.

Courses based upon mathematics ranked second in attracting new students, it is revealed by the company's study of the wartime role of more than 550 leading educational institutions.

In this second group, general sciences, physics, chemistry and engineering were reported in that order of importance, while Spanish took third place in new course gains.

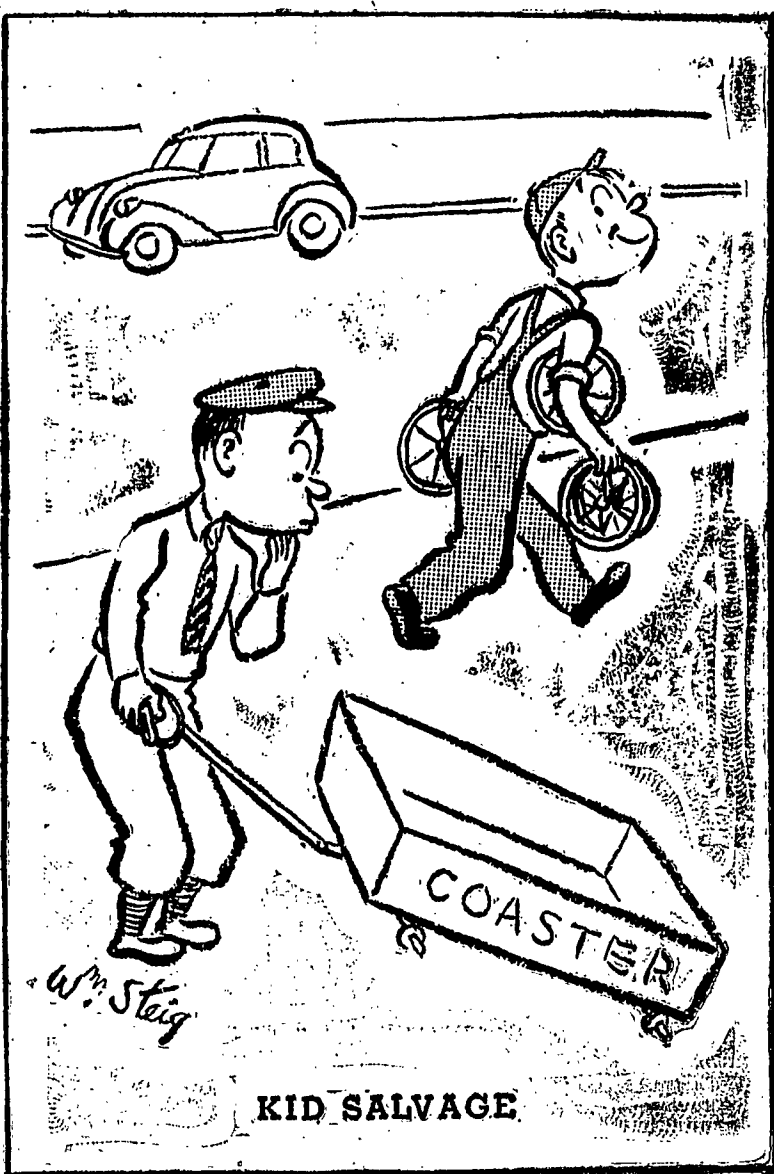
Ironically, French scored the biggest loss of students enrolled for more than 50 courses reported as showing shrinking importance.

Next in order of preference in new courses ranked secretarial, foreign trade, business administration and home economics. Liberal arts received the greatest setback.

football players who live in the dorms—should take the responsibility of assuming authority in case several students still attempt to express their feeling of bitterness by taking drastic measures.

## The Acid Test

Announcing that State College will have a surprise total blackout sometime between now and the first of September, Civilian Defense officials realize that their efforts, instructions, and all plans in general will get the so-called acid test when the blackout does occur. No longer will students and townspeople spend an entire afternoon preparing their homes for an announced blackout. This time the lights will go first, and then the preparations will begin.



KID SALVAGE

## Letters To The Editor— Reader Reviles Collegian For Editorial "Slander"

To the Editor:  
The 300 or so students in the dormitories, who are being thrown out, sincerely appreciate the cooperation it has received from the student supported "voice of the students." you big hypocrit! I should think that before you go around printing slandering editorials about 300 Penn State students you would look into the facts.

Eighty-five percent of the students in the dormitories are technical students—vital to the nation's interest—not the college. They are being thrown out to make room for a bunch of women. But of course the college enrollment might suffer, so to hell with technical students and national welfare—college enrollment comes first. What kind of loyalty and patriotism is this?

But overlooking these facts, the dorm boys got together and decided to cooperate with college authorities and move out. Meanwhile you go around slandering 300 students with filthy lies. Why don't you verify facts before making statements? Why don't you ask college authorities if there is cooperation—"destruction"?—What have these students done that is so shameful? Have they organized a march on Harrisburg?

## Campus Calendar

TODAY

Philotes cabin party at the WRA Cabin. Meet at 2 p. m. in front of Old Main.

Tennis match with the faculty at 2 p. m.

Russian Club members are asked to attend a party and meeting at the home of Mrs. H. B. Curry; 228 E. Prospect avenue, 7:30 p. m.

Have they made a public demonstration of protest? No, they are sacrificing their own comfort, and taking time from studies to find a new hole to bury themselves—and what does your paper do? Comes out with malicious lies of revolt and destruction.—Why don't you stick to your two-bit politics and Victory Weekends and let people who are making tangible sacrifices alone—you rumor mongers . . .

yours,

Dominick Berardinelli

Editor's Note: Re-reading of yesterday's editorial will reveal that constructive criticism was levied at "a small number of men" and not the 300 dorm residents. Reference to today's front page story will also reveal the "destruction" which that "small group" has commenced and which will reflect upon cooperating dorm residents unless stopped.

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