

Broadway Comes to Campus With 'Guest in the House'

By MARTIN LENNIG
Guest Critic

After a week of most successful publicity, The Penn State Players presented, "Guest in the House" last Friday and Saturday evenings. Players productions are always worth seeing, and "Guest in the House," was no exception; although we are afraid it was one of their lesser achievements.

The story deals with the life of Ann and Steven Proctor and the guest they invite to their home in Trumbull, Connecticut. The guest, Evelyn Heath, is a neurotic cousin of Ann Proctor who should have found her way to an institution rather than the ideally pleasant Proctor home.

Our task of reviewing is difficult; on one hand we are inhibited, as we are forced to accept a play with a long Broadway run and subsequent Hollywood conversion as being good material, and judge not the content, but only the rendition. We also found the change from Friday to Saturday's performance so great that most criticisms would not hold water for both evenings.

The set, which remained identical for both performances, was a honey. The props and all else that went into making that professional setting were well done, and we found it almost painful to watch the stage crew strike it after Saturday's show.

Evelyn Heath was portrayed by Marjory Stout on Friday evening, and Margaret Keefe on Saturday. Miss Stout got off to a fine start Friday, and gave good feeling to the sickeningly sweet, apathetic, demanding character of the neurotic. In the latter scenes of the play, however, she seemed forced and stilted; not exactly what we would imagine neurotic. Saturday's child, Margaret Keefe was equally good in the first four scenes, and managed to carry more verve and realism into the climaxing second half of the play.

Betty Shenk, as Ann Proctor gave a good amateur performance, never allowing herself to fall below par, and at times showing a spark of true acting. The leading male, Jackson Reid, was consistently forced.

The supporting roles, we are afraid, outshone the leads. Verna Sevast, as usual, was of professional standard as the murdering Aunt Martha. And Sydney Friedman pleasantly surprised us by handling the part of Miriam Blake, the model, in first class style.

Cheryl Davis was the Proctor's young daughter Lee. We liked her plenty, think she showed real ability, and got a special kick out

of her waving over the footlights during curtain call. "The bitch in the chateau dress" Dorothy Newborn, and her cameraman Robert Stabley were well appreciated for their fine support. Portman Paget caused an audible murmur in the house when he appeared; and it was a shame there wasn't more of him.

The failure of the first curtain warning to sound on Friday evening, giving rise to inexcusable shuffling for seats during the first ten lines of the second act, characterized the performance. It was sloppy, and Players failed to hold their audience. "The Hasty Heart" had its full share of comedy, but when something serious was to be said, there wasn't a titter running through the audience. During the second Friday intermission we heard the question, "Is this a comedy?" and found the remark sad but in order.

The sight of almost a yard of Sydney Friedman's shapely legs in the first act was pleasant, and the none-too-subtle love-making of the Proctors pleasing, but all difficult for an unsophisticated audience to take in its stride. Someone in Players should have realized this. The lights which did not go on, the matches which could not be found and which did not go out, the thunder which was so obviously a piece of tin, and the storm which drowned out the actor's voices, were examples of carelessness in production not characteristic of Players.

By Saturday night most of these flaws were corrected. "Liebestraum," Evelyn's bell, and the front door knocker were audible beyond the fourth row; and the audience knew what was happening without having to glean it from the actors pantomime.

The Penn State Players set their own standards, by which we judge, when they produced "Twelfth Night," "The Hasty Heart," and "Our Town." "Guest in the House" made for a pleasant evening; we certainly preferred it to Abbott and Costello who were dominating the local movie theatre. Players have been worse, but they have also done much better.

Pi Lam Pledges Five

Five students are now pledging for Pi Lambda Phi fraternity. They are Norman Alterman, Alan Baskin, Harold Krauss, Murray Liebman, and Jules Steinberg. Norbert Goldstein and Robert Kagan were initiated recently.

Rev. Vogel Directs New PSCA Chorus; Movie, Cabin Party on Slate

A PSCA mixed chorus, organized for the enjoyment of singing together and preparing special numbers, held its first rehearsal in 304 Old Main, at 6:30 p. m. Thursday. Rev. Milton Vogel is the director, and new members are welcome.

Charter members of the chorus are Howard Back, Ralph Newman, Richard Troutman, Carl Goldenberg, Jerry Eberhart, Bernard Gold, Walter Robb, Wilbur Kraybill, Walter Pascoe, Len Pollock, David Ingraham, Gifford Phillips, Howard Maxwell, Chauncey Tepel, Charles Oerkrvitz, Paulette Minner, Geraldine Hindenach, Donna McLaughlin, Bernice Wachter, Mike Branzovich, Rose Ann Sitzai, Peggy Weiss, Bobbie Hall, Erla Johnston, Joan Wolfe, Rebecca Griffin, Joan Smith Harriett Gelatt, Mary Magas, Billie Blair, Gregor Dengler, Lois Weller, Mary Glick, Vera Eby, Margie Griffith, Ruth Lau, Richard Spence, John Laysner, and Robert Wink.

"One Day in Soviet Russia," produced in the USSR and released to the public in 1941-42, will be shown for all students and faculty in 121 Sparks at 7:30 p. m. Thursday by the PSCA Upperclass Club. The film was written and narrated by Quentin Reynolds. Larry Marcella heads the program committee, which has arranged for this special showing.

The time of the First Semester Club meeting on Monday has been moved ahead to 6:45 p. m., when Dr. B. V. Moore of the department of psychology will speak on "How To Get Along With Other People." The business meeting, in 304 Old Main, will be directed by co-presidents Bud Thomas and Joan Wolfe. Dancing and games will be led by George Minich and Alice Miller.

The First Semester Club will hold a cabin party tomorrow at Watts Lodge, leaving the rear of Old Main at 2:30 p. m. Dinner will be served at the cabin, and the program will include square dancing, a talk by Dr. Henry Yeagley on "The Story of the Stars," and a midnight hike up Tussey Ridge. The group will return home at 9 a. m. Sunday.

Alumnus Receives Ring From Students

Somewhere in Germany, a Russian soldier sports a 1943 College class ring bartered for a bit of bacon from a young Norristown officer.

And in Camp Blanding, Florida, the officer, Lt. James M. Lloyd, '43, has received news that his ring has been replaced. . . . almost on his birthday.

The Norristown officer who received a B.S. degree in forestry from the College in May, 1943, was taken prisoner in Germany on Thanksgiving Day, 1944, and released on April 26, 1945.

It was shortly after his liberation that he traded his ring to the Russian soldier for some scraps of food.

Hearing about the loss of the ring, hatmen on campus last semester organized and collected a fund in order to replace it.

A new ring was recently presented to Mrs. Lloyd as a gift of the entire student body.

Aletheia was entertained by Pi Lambda Phi at a tea Sunday.

Letters To The Editor

(Editor's Note:—Letters to the editor may be addressed to the Collegian office, Carnegie Hall. Names and addresses must be included although not necessarily for publication.)

Collegian Editor:

Regarding freshman customs:

The purpose of customs is to make Penn State men of the new freshmen. This I believe has been the guiding thought at State. If customs do not make better college men, then they are valueless.

This point may seem very obvious, but much time and effort was taken last semester to secure better customs this summer. But it has meant nothing to those in power. A customs committee was appointed and this group made recommendations, including the removal of buttoning, which were passed as student law at Cabinet's final meeting. Everyone felt it indicated a new and better trend.

The new semester began. Freshmen were, and are, hailed before Tribunal and punished. And what is done to make them better Penn State men? Nothing!! The ridiculous signs and dresses came back, the buckets, the bibles, the threats—all the old equipment, all the old system. Not only are customs as stupid as always, Tribunal is just as autocratic. It repeated the act of the student government by replacing buttoning in the freshman code. No further comment is needed, but action is needed—NOW.

Customs at Penn State are traditional, I know. But now the tradition is wrong. If customs cannot be constructive they must go. It is up to responsible parties to develop such a program now or face serious trouble soon. Gripping, however, from any quarter, will not better the situation. Therefore, I would like to suggest some tentative points for an adjusted program of freshman orientation:

1. Remove buttoning immediately and put into effect the other recommendations of last semester's committee. Further, remove all customs that do not have a definite, constructive purpose.

2. In future semesters put the accent on "Penn State" not "kill the frosh." No family would think of inviting a guest into their home, clubbing him over the head, and daring him to like his host. Yet, Penn State does that very thing every semester.

3. Set up a definite list of customs, a definite trial procedure, a definite penalty system. All these points should be democratic and constructive. They should be incorporated into student law and should be unalterable except by student referendum. Arbitrary handling of customs has always led to trouble.

4. Arrange for an orientation program required of all freshmen (this was one of the measures passed by Cabinet last semester) in which such subjects as Penn State traditions and lore, manners, study aids, dating, extra-curricular activities, and college work would be discussed.

5. Originate a social program for the freshmen that would make them welcome, interested and glad they are at Penn State. A step in this direction was the frosh mixer at the armory a few weeks ago. But more and varied programs are needed.

This isn't the whole answer to the problem, but it is a start. Customs went out of date with the raccoon coat and the hip flask, but Penn State doesn't know it yet. Someone important better wake up soon, before trouble spreads our name but not our fame.

SIDNEY EBOCH

To the Editor:

This is in regard to complaints about the AST Dance voiced by one Peggy Weaver in the August 3 issue of *The Collegian*. Miss Weaver's attitude, although not understandable, may be excusable in view of the fact that she is probably not acquainted with circumstances surrounding the governing of the conduct of the AST Unit here. Nevertheless, her puerile viewpoint did more to produce a permanent rift between the ASTP and the civilian students than it did to unite the two groups as she ostensibly intended.

Miss Weaver states that AST is a group apart from other students. This is quite true. The ASTP, using Army terminology, has a mission. Its members are regarded as soldiers in school—not as students in uniform. The Army does not feel that it is necessary as a part of the training given the AST to encourage or permit the participation in the various social and extra-curricular functions of the college proper. AST is, then, fundamentally a different sect from the socially-minded regularly enrolled students.

Now, to answer why the AST Dance is a closed affair. The rental for the Armory, the reimbursement for the orchestra, and the funds for decorations came from the Battalion Fund, to which the All-College Cabinet has contributed nothing. Speaking purely from the business point of view, the dance belongs as solely to the ASTP as does a textbook to the student who purchased it. Another person has no more right to expect or to want an invitation to this dance than another student would have the right to expect to use the analogous textbook.

Furthermore, examine the dance under the light of social precedence. When has Miss Weaver or Emily Post ever heard of a military ball being anything other than a closed affair? One might liken an exception to this rule to an opening of USO's to the civilian public. Besides, if the All-College Cabinet must have a dance on Saturday night, it has access to Rec Hall.

"Socially-minded students crowd the movies, overflow from the Corner Room and Autoport, and bemoan their fate." Why don't they overflow to their fraternity houses? AST's are not permitted to affiliate themselves with fraternities; your "socially-minded students" would not be contaminated there.

One might remark about the duplicity of attitude noticed in *The Collegian*. The same column that carried Miss Weaver's sour-grapes commentary of the AST Dance also had an article on collaboration between Navy men and civilians. No one in the ASTP remembers any overtures being made concerning Army participation in Student government. To be sure, one representative from the AST Battalion was elected to the cabinet, but this was obviously a petty token gesture on somebody's part, for what could he do? "Unity seems imperative," but unity is impossible when childish logic employs caustic criticism to attain the end.

Please publish this letter. Not only will you do me an honor and the Army a justice, but also you will help to clarify the popular misconception about the status of the ASTP.

An ASTP Private

Dispensary Treats 2370, Sends 53 To Infirmary

According to the Dispensary monthly report, the total number of students treated in July amounted to 2370. The number of regular College students was 1886, Navy V-12, 179 and ASTP, 305.

The number of patients treated in the hospital totaled 53, regular students, 35, Navy V-12, 5, and ASTP, 13.

The out patient department treatments amounted to 641 regular students, 38 Navy V-12 students and 24 ASTP students.

Jack Harper

the prettiest color
you can put on your lips

Pretty Pink Lipstick

BY PRINCE MATCHABELLI

No two ways about it . . .
Pretty Pink has infinite charm . . .
it's natural but not naive, dramatic
but not artificial . . . it's the perfect
accent for navy, for grey,
for flowery hats. Have the entire
Pretty Pink make-up sequence
and see how much prettier
you can be! Scented with the
sweet, fresh fragrance
of lilacs. Pretty Pink
Lipstick, 1.00.



Use with: Pretty Pink Face Powder, 1.50
Pretty Pink Crème Rouge, 1.00
Rose Rachele Foundation, 1.75
Duchess Blue Eye Shadow, 1.00
(all prices plus 20% Fed. tax)

McLANAHAN'S

BUY

CHOICE MEATS and GROCERIES FRESH FRUITS and VEGETABLES

AT

COLLEGE

Food Market

PHONE 4955
FREE DELIVERY

202 WEST
COLLEGE AVE.