

Editorials and columns appearing in The Daily Collegian represent the opinions of the writer. They make no claim to reflect student or University consensus. Unsigned editorials are written by the editor.

We Don't Like Obits

Obituaries are hard to write. They are especially disagreeable to college newspapermen when written about their classmates.

Most sickening of all are the unnecessary ones, those that are caused by someone's carelessness, or recklessness, or "just a few beers."

The sheer waste of brains, talent, leadership, the senseless snapping of promising careers before they even have a chance to start, the stupidity of the wanton slaughter—all combine to restrain reluctant fingers, fumbling over typewriter keys.

Why are college students guilty of such a poor driving record? They are young, strong, alert, and intelligent. Potentially, they should be the safest drivers in the country.

Is it because they are prone to show off? Are they too easily distracted? too devil-may-care? too over-confident? unable to prepare for emergencies?

All these factors contribute to the deplorable proneness of 18 to 24-year-olds to accidents. They were responsible for 27% of all accidents last year, although their average mileage was less than the national average.

Not very important excuses for the needless killing and maiming of loved ones or innocent strangers, is it? Unfortunate as it is true, these wanton murderers frequently suffer the least from their actions.

Now as the gayest season of the year approaches, students should observe extra precautions whenever driving. The natural exuberance of a two-weeks' freedom from classrooms and books must be held in check when behind the wheel.

Common sense, courtesy and caution are Christmas musts. We don't want to write any obits for the January 4 Collegian.

Status Quo, Unless

Nearly two weeks ago we came out and barefacedly admitted that the Daily Collegian is not the best student newspaper in the country—but maybe we were wrong.

From the resounding lack of response to our invitation for suggestions and criticism, we're nearly convinced that we're not so bad after all.

So we've become resigned to accept this unanimous silent "vote of confidence" with humble gratitude, considering it as a mandate to "stay just as we are."

No longer will we knock ourselves out trying to think of new angles, new features and innovations, and ways to improve news coverage and distribution. As long as the students are satisfied with their newspaper, who are we to complain?

But if you'd like to keep us from getting swelled heads, how about letting us in on your innermost gripes about Collegian. We're not absolutely inaccessible. Our office is on the ground floor of Carnegie Hall, and our post office box number 261.

The Daily Collegian

Successor to THE FREE LANCE, est. 1887

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Lead kindly light—



Condemned as Hotbeds

Dean of Men Arthur R. Warnock has struck a blow in favor of the fraternities in the continuing struggle among educators to decide whether or not fraternities should continue to exist as now organized on American college campuses.

Warnock, speaking at the AFC-IFC banquet Wednesday night, said that one of the primary reasons why fraternities have continued to exist on American college campuses is that they tend to foster and promote democracy. Such a statement, at first glance, seems irreconcilable with actions like those of the Phi Kappa Psi national fraternity which suspended a local chapter for pledging a Negro, or with the speech last year by David E. Embury, then chairman of the National Interfraternity Conference, who advocated the rights of white Christian fraternities to exclude Negroes, Jews, and in some cases Catholics, from their chapters.

Yet if one will look beneath the exterior of fraternity prejudices, which undoubtedly exist, he will find more than a little truth glittering through Dean Warnock's observation.

Too often critics are prone to condemn fraternities as hotbeds of racial prejudice and anti-semitism or undemocratic organs of segregation without considering the fundamental democratic good they perform for the members of each of the thousands of local chapters scattered over the United States.

It is forgotten that fraternities for the most part function as small model democratic governments and provide training in voting, responsibility, holding office, etc., which will serve the average student in good stead when he leaves the university campus and goes out to make his mark in the world.

Although not quite as noticeable in the current post-war era which has seen numerous veterans of more mature age and experience enrolled in the institutions of higher learning, in pre-war days, and in days soon to come when veterans will be but a memory on most campuses, fraternities have been and will be the only means whereby young boys leaving home for the first time get a real taste of living together with other men, and of participating in an organization which permits voting and the other devices of our democratic government.

Fraternities, in cases such as these, materially aid in the development of democratic character in the boys which it embraces.

Before we again hasten to condemn wholesale the entire fraternity system, let us stop first and think of the advances being made in eliminating racial and religious segregation and prejudice in fraternities, and delve below the surface to find out how fraternities actually do function as democracies on a miniature scale, molding the future democratic citizens of tomorrow.

—Wilbert Roth.

The Safety Valve

Letters to the editor must be signed for inclusion in the Safety Valve, although names will be withheld on request. Telephone numbers and addresses must be included to facilitate verification of authenticity of signatures. Letters exceeding 200 words in length may be cut when required by space limitations.

Thanks, Bill

TO THE EDITOR: On behalf of the members of the Nittany Dorm Council, and I feel sure that the Pollock Circle Council is of the same sentiments, I wish to take this opportunity to thank Bill Prosser and the rest of the boys of AIM for having helped us to obtain the recreational facilities we have been in need of for the longest time. This is an indication of what is possible when there is cooperation in student government.

—Daniel T. Coitono, President, Nittany Dorm Council.

'Pay As You Eat'

TO THE EDITOR: I believe I have one solution for the men eating in the Nittany Dining Commons that may end complaints. Why not get rid of the flat payment of \$50 board and serve the meals on the "pay as you eat" basis? I mean putting a cash register at the end of the line and having the students pay for what they took from the counter. This way if one didn't like a particular food, he wouldn't have to take it, so he wouldn't pay for it either. See what I mean? I think that in the long run, everyone would be happier, even you, when the complaints dwindle.

—Neal F. Mohler.

Edit Briefs

• The library at Alexandria, Egypt, in the first century A.D. contained over 700,000 volumes in an age when every book had to be written by hand. Today when books are mass produced and plentiful the College library contains not quite 300,000.

Collegian Gazette

Brief notices of meetings and other events must be submitted to The Daily Collegian office in Carnegie Hall by 2 p.m. of the day before the issue in which it is desired to appear.

Friday, December 10

College Hospital

Admitted Wednesday: William Jones, Lois Edelstein, Harry Bauer, Elinor Ralston.

Admitted Thursday: Francis Hatkevich, Harold Fink.

Discharged Thursday: Elmer Cook, Donna Haley, Elinor Ralston, Daniel Hanson, Martin Friedman.

College Placement

Institute of Textile Technology, December 10, seventh and eighth semester men in Chem Eng, Chem, Commercial Chem, Physics, and ME.

Joy Manufacturing Co., December 13 and 14, eighth semester in EE and ME. Should have inclination for design and development in heavy machinery.

E. I. du Pont de Nemours and Co., December 14, eighth semester men, accounting.

Army Security Agency, December 13 and 14, eighth semester students in EE.

Hagan Corp., December 15 and 16, eighth semester men in EE, ME, Sanitary Eng, Ceramics, Chem Eng, and Chem.

Long Island Lighting Co., December 18, eighth semester, in EE and ME for public utility work.

Piaseck Helicopter Corp., December 17, eighth semester men in AE and ME.

Supplee-Wills-Jones Milk Co., December 17, eighth semester men in Dairy Husbandry.

Sperry-Gyroscope Co., December 13, eighth semester, EE, interested in communications.

Rochester & Pittsburgh Coal Co., December 16, eighth semester ME, EE, Mining Eng, Architectural Eng, CE.

Pittsburgh Plate Glass Co., December 16, eighth semester, IE, EE, ME, Chem Eng, and Ceramics.

Training program in industrial engineering. Will lead to factory technical assignments. Few openings in maintenance.

At the Movies

CATHAUM—Loves of Carmen.

STATE—One Touch of Venus.

NITTANY—It Had to Be You.

Student Concessionaires

Get Your Candy at SALLY'S

We have

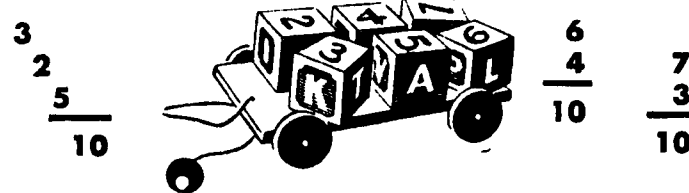
Almond Joys, Mounds, Clark Bars, O Henry, Hershey, etc.

90c and 95c a box

Chewing Gum, 65c a box

Peanuts, Pretzels

WHAT DOES THIS ADD UP TO?



The Swellest Show in Town!

At Center Stage

TEN NIGHTS IN A BARROOM

Tickets Still On Sale for Friday

THE

Allencrest

TODAY'S SPECIAL DEEP SEA SCALLOPS Lyonnaise Potatoes Fresh Green Peas Rolls & Beverage

75c