

# The Daily Collegian

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## The College Helps

Only a few people in or outside the fraternity houses actually realized just how bad the manpower situation was at the end of last week.

FORTUNATELY, members of the College administration did realize the seriousness of the situation, and, along with the officers of Interfraternity council, took steps to correct it.

The IFC meeting Tuesday took care of a lot of things. First of all, it definitely ended the worries of all the houses, or alleviated them to such an extent that they would be able to continue as active organizations.

But better than that was the understanding of the administration members toward the fraternities' problem.

The Board of Trustees last Friday voted to release 100 men from their dormitory contracts to help the houses. After the IFC met Monday night, the minimum figure the council arrived at was 133 releases. And the administration complied with that figure.

It is clear even to those who know nothing about the problem whatsoever that by this act, the administration is in a sense, shoring up the fraternity system at Penn State.

THE COLLEGE is losing money on every man released from the dorm contracts today. The rents of those remaining in the dorms will not be raised to cover the departure of the belated pledge class. The price and quantity of the food will remain the same. The College is taking the loss, and no one else.

But with this loss, we believe the College has gained something that it will hold forever: the unqualified support of the 50 odd fraternities on the campus.

The fraternities must not forget this, for it could easily be that in these times, which we like to refer to as the "New Era" at Penn State, the need for a solid group to lead the student body in one project or another may arise at any time.

DESPITE the somewhat unique organization of independent men on the campus, if any group is needed to take the lead in a school project, the fraternities should be the ones to shoulder the burden. For no independent group, no matter how powerful, can, with more or less one word, spur into action over 2000 men.

Still another group must gain some recognition out of the situation as the smoke clears away.

Monday night, fifty odd fraternity representatives sat down together, all with the same problem—an almost desperate need for men—and compromise figure after compromise figure was reached as the houses strove for the common weal, the more fortunate houses stepping aside to let those hardest hit take in men that they themselves could have used.

It's nice to know that somewhere, no matter how trivial it seems to outsiders, there are people and groups who take into consideration the needs and feelings of others before their own little comforts.

—George Glazer

## Cuts For Brains

Students at the College have for many years been subject to a more or less compulsory, helter-skelter system of class attendance regulation. With no overall policy, each department and in some cases each prof set individual rules. These currently range from an automatic drop for over-cutting in one department to practically no restrictions at all in another.

WE WOULD like to propose a uniform program for at least one part of the general problem of cutting rules. It is fairly evident that a student who can compile a 2.5 average, the dean's list minimum, during a semester, is a pretty good student. Such a student might reasonably be expected to know by himself what classes he can safely cut and which ones he must attend. For this reason we propose the following formula: Any student who has compiled a 2.5 average or better the previous semester, with no grade lower than 2 in any subject, should be granted unlimited cuts in any subject as long as he maintains this level.

The program automatically would be self-checking, since any student who overcut dangerously would lose his average and be restricted again.

Dean Ben Euwema of the Liberal Arts school has endorsed this plan. He said, "I would be very happy to see such a policy established. I do not see any objection that could be raised to it." With the support of the dean of the College's largest school, this plan merits serious consideration.

WE SUGGEST the College Senate consider this plan with a view toward shaping a consistent policy for all schools of the College.

—Ron Bonn

## Safety Valve . . .

### Insult To Intelligence

TO THE EDITOR: In the Collegian of Sept. 27 it was stated by Mr. William Albert Druschel that freshman customs were lacking in spirit, etc.

This letter was an insult to the intelligence of all upperclassmen. For Mr. Druschel happens to be a freshman who would be very glad to have customs discontinued. For in the same issue in which his letter appeared, also appeared the story that Mr. Druschel had appeared before Tribunal for violation of freshman customs, and had been found guilty.

Are upperclassmen and hatmen going to take this insult sitting down?

—Gene Kolber, Druids

### Letter Cut

## Gazette . . .

Thursday, September 28

WRA swimming club, 7 p.m. White Hall pool. WRA outing, 7 p.m. 2 White Hall.

CHEMICAL ENGINEER'S SOCIETY meeting, 7 p.m. 119 Osmond.

FROTH ART STAFF meeting, members and candidates, 7 p.m. Froth office, CH (cartooning, story or fashion illustration, poster or window painting.)

SOCIETY FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF MANAGEMENT meeting, 7 p.m. 107 Main Eng. EL CIRCULO ESPANOL club, 7 p.m. main lounge, McElwain.

SOCIETY OF AUTOMOTIVE ENGINEERS, student group organizational meeting, 7:30 p.m. 203 Willard Hall.

AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY, student affiliate chapter organizational meeting, 105 Osmond, 7:30 p.m.

AI CHE meeting, 7 p.m. 119 Osmond.

DELTA SIGMA PI, Phi Kappa fraternity house, 7:15 p.m.

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE organization, 6:45 p.m. Hugh Beaver room, Old Main.

## History Repeats . . .

# Campus Has Viewed Other Frosh Revolts

By MOYLAN MILLS

Last night's freshman uprising was not the first time frosh protested customs with a mass meeting on campus.

In 1926, freshmen kidnapped the sophomore class president and held him overnight to prevent a scheduled sophomore class meeting.

Just before World War II, freshmen called a mass meeting in front of Old Main to protest certain stiff customs regulations, A. R.

Warnock, emeritus dean of men, recalled last night. Student leaders addressed the meeting, discussed protested practices, smoothed over questionable practices to the frosh's satisfaction, and the meeting broke up with the frosh and upperclassmen on good terms.

Warnock said that if upperclassmen circulated among the freshmen and fully explained customs to them, as they did during other difficult periods, frosh would understand customs better, and future dissension might disappear.

Warnock said, "It may be that the lapse of customs during the war years has broken the customs tradition, and it may be difficult, if not impossible, to reinstate freshmen customs now."

The 1926 kidnapping was instigated by freshmen when they heard that the sophomores were set to haze the frosh at a scheduled freshman meeting in the now demolished bull pen, formerly on Ag Hill. The frosh decided to jump the gun and torment the sophs first. The sophomores retaliated with very heavy padding the following week.

## Frosh Stage Mass Protest

(Continued from page one)

hooted down, but the frosh left shortly after he gave up trying to speak. There was some talk of going to a Hat Society council meeting later in the evening but the group dwindled away shortly.

### Hatmen Circulate

Some freshmen remained in the West dorm courtyard when the main group stampeded down the Mall, and hatmen circulated among them to explain customs.

The glass in a fire alarm box on the third floor North of Thompson hall was broken, and the alarm rang ten or 12 times, before stopping automatically. A maintenance man, who was quoted as saying "The little rascals were just feeling frisky tonight," replaced the glass.

Comments of freshmen after the rally were both fearful and defiant. One commented, "We were fools to start anything like this. There are 8,000 upperclassmen and they could come up here and take care of the thousand of us just like nothing." Another said that "upper classmen don't give a darn," but another said, "Like heck. The hatmen are organized and the upperclassmen are behind them." Others spoke of holding another demonstration.

The West dorm demonstrations were punctuated by exploding firecrackers and strings of caps. These disturbances continued even after most of the crowd had dispersed.

### Hatmen To Meet

A mass meeting of all hatmen had been scheduled and is still slated to take place tonight at 7 o'clock in 121 Sparks to discuss the customs regulations.

Robert Davis, All-College president, commented, "What happened tonight was the result of an improper attitude on the part of hatmen. Some of them haven't read the customs, don't understand them, and can't interpret them for the freshmen."

Asked about the result, Davis replied that "There will probably be a tightening up of customs. But I don't think there should be a tightening up unless the hatmen are briefed on cus-

## Hatmen—

(Continued from page one) and Bones. He urged upperclassmen to cooperate and asked hatmen to get four or five of their friends to help with customs.

Answering questions as to when freshman customs might be removed, Samuel Vaughn, secretary-treasurer of Androcles, replied, "Men's customs are supposed to run until freshmen indicate by their behavior that they are ready to take care of themselves."

Neil See, Tribunal chairman, said the frosh action "was not wise" and continued, "a group like that can get too excited. Somebody might have got hurt. I'm glad there was no destruction, but I'm disappointed it happened."

Frosh leaders of the rally tried to maintain order and let speakers be heard, but the crowd shouted down any talk of partial removal of customs, demanding complete removal of customs.

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**RESULTS**  
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