

# 'Private Lives' To Illustrate Players' Arena Techniques

By RON BONN

When Players' production of Noel Coward's "Private Lives" opens at Centre Stage Friday night, State College theatre goers will be introduced to a unique type of stage construction, arena staging.

Of comparatively recent beginnings, arena staging marks the first radical change in theatre techniques since the origin of the theatre itself. Under the arena system, the audience is not separated from the actors at all, but actually sits on what would be, in the conventional theatre, the stage.

The floor of the arena theatre is level. Seats for the audience are grouped around three or four sides of the set proper. Players make entrances and exits right through the audience. Instead of the "two-dimensional" action of the ordinary theatre, actors must play to an audience more or less surrounding them.

Arena staging brings with it other technical problems distinct from those of the conventional theatre. The problem of the three-dimensional audience crops up again in lighting. The stage must be lighted equally from all sides, and footlights cannot be used.

"Fellow-Feeling" Nearness of the audience establishes a "fellow-feeling" between it and the cast.

In the usual theatre there is a barrier of raised stage and orchestra between them. The atmosphere of arena staging is an intimate, personal one.

A major advantage of the system is in its use with small-audience groups. A great many smaller communities have adopted the plan, finding it the answer to the problem of theatricals in unfillable auditoriums. Arena staging is a low-budget system, eliminating the use of extensive backdrops, large stage crews, and other cost-boosting items.

For a number of years, Players have employed the arena system. They are, in fact, one of the pioneer groups in the country, and have, through many seasons, become as adept at the new technique as most theatrical groups are with the conventional one.

## Film To Show Research Work At The College

As a special feature of Pennsylvania Week, the College will release throughout the state the first of a series of films designed to show the services Penn State renders to the Commonwealth.

"Research Is For People," a 22-minute sound film in color, illustrates the extent of the various types of research done at the College and the value it has to the people of Pennsylvania.

Produced by the College and filmed on the campus, the picture shows research done in food freezing. It depicts studies made on insulation and moisture transfer to help improve housing.

Giving a well-balanced but far from complete picture of the vast research program at Penn State, the film then turns to the farm seed stock program and to the dairy cattle breeding research center, both of which serve Pennsylvania agriculture in providing better crops and better dairy herds.

In the fluorine laboratories, work on the development of fluorocarbons, a completely new family of compounds which will

## Brunner Set To Direct FFA Music

Dr. Henry S. Brunner, head of the department of agricultural education, is directing the national Future Farmers of America band and chorus at the annual convention in Kansas City, Mo., this week. Dr. Brunner has 115 boys from 110 different schools in 37 states comprising the national band.

Pennsylvania has eight boys in the national band. They are



Henry S. Brunner

Samuel E. Moyer, Hershey R. D-2, and Robert McCullough, Eighty-Four, Washington County, both playing Eb Clarinets; A. William Hahn, Newfoundland, and P. Ward Hill, Spring Mills, both playing Bb clarinets; Harold Butler, Union City, tenor sax; Ray Vabderhoff, Claysville, Washington County, baritone sax; Raymond Witherete and James Grove, both Spring Mills, French horns.

Four boys from Pennsylvania are in the national FFA chorus. They are Richard Rice and Joseph Baker, both of New Enterprise; Donald Lehman, Heidelberg Township, Lebanon County, and Henry G. Patches, South Lebanon Township.

### Pa. Week Committee

Members of the sophomore class Pennsylvania Week committee will meet at 6:45 tonight at the Phi Kappa Sigma fraternity house to discuss plans for next week's state celebration. All members of the sophomore class are invited.

not burn, mold, corrode, or decay, is pictured.

During Pennsylvania Week, bookings for the picture will be handled through Penn State centers in Altoona, Dravosburg, Dubois, Erie, Harrisburg, Ogontz School near Philadelphia, Pottsville, and Scranton.

## Uruguayan, Indo-Chinese Study Here

Some people really "go away to school."

Take, for instance, Nguyen tu Ban, of Hanoi, Viet Nam (Indo-China) and Eduardo A. Wood, of Monevideo, Uruguay. Both are enrolled here at Penn State.

These two students were imported by Alpha Zeta and Delta Theta Sigma to study agriculture at the college. They are the recipients of special scholarships providing them with room and board. The college waives the other costs.

Senor Wood is a senior at the Escuela de Practica y Campo Experimental de Agronomia, near Salto, Uruguay. He is taking courses in animal husbandry and agronomy to enable him to launch an extensive beef growing program in his native country.

Mr. Ban is concentrating on agricultural engineering and agronomy subjects. He wishes to return to his native land better prepared to improve his country's agricultural practices.

Last year, two students from Germany attended the college under similar circumstances. The two students Heribert Krane and Otto Baer are now back in the U.S. Zone. They are both enrolled at Hohenheim university.

Upon completing their studies, the two students took an extensive tour of the mid-west and California before returning to Germany in August.

## Business Up In Pennsylvania

General business in Pennsylvania during August was up 25 per cent from that of a year ago, the bureau of business research at the College announced yesterday.

The expansion of general business from July to August was 10 per cent and was caused by a very high level of civilian goods production, some war orders, fewer strikes, and a very high level of retail purchasing.

New records for any month in the history of the state were shown for industrial power sales, life insurance sales, new car and truck sales, and telephones.

New August records were reported for bank debits, steel production, and building operations. The bureau reported that retail trade was excellent. Sales were still high, although frenzied scare buying fell off during August.

Independent store sales were up about 15 per cent from a year ago, while department store sales gained 15 to 25 per cent.

All areas showed an improvement over a year ago and the percentage of gains are: Allentown, 18; Altoona, 27; Bethlehem, 35; Easton, 13; Erie, 26; Harrisburg, 12; Johnstown, 21; Lancaster, 17; New Castle, 29; Oil City, 3; Philadelphia, 21; Chester, 4; Pittsburgh, 32; Reading, 25; Sharon, 26; Scranton, 15; Wilkes-Barre, 7; Williamsport, 22; and York, 16.

# Eisenhower's Portal Opens To Bold Coeds

By MARV KRASNANSKY

If Miriam Kugelman and Marian Schrum, two Penn State coeds, had any doubts about Dr. Milton Eisenhower's "open door" policy, they don't any more.

Having heard of Eisenhower's record of always having a ready ear and an open door for students at Kansas State, the two liberal arts juniors decided to see for themselves.

By the time their one-hour visit was over, the girls had met the president, his family, and his three brothers. They had also had their pictures taken by a Life photographer, collected a batch of autographs, and amazed a crew of newspapermen.

The way the girls tell it, this past Thursday, on the inauguration of Dr. Eisenhower as 11th president of the College, they decided they would like to meet the "boss"—just to size him up and give their approval, you see.

Ruth Baffled So, having made their decision, the girls calmly walked up to the President's home, knocked on the door, and asked to see the president. Ruth, Dr. Eisenhower's 12-year-old daughter, was apparently taken by surprise, but Mrs. Eisenhower came to the rescue and told the girls that the president was dressing and would come down shortly.

Mrs. Eisenhower ushered the girls—who by this time had begun to appreciate the importance of their undertaking—into the living room. After a few minutes Dr. Eisenhower entered and made small talk with the girls and in a little while the trio was joined by "Ike" Eisenhower of World War

II fame. Quickly the girls garnered the autographs of both men.

Meet Earl More small talk followed and in a short while the girls adjourned to the garden to await the arrival of some newspapermen and photographers. There they met Earl Eisenhower, added his autograph to their collection, and made more talk. Earl fetched Edgar, who completed the circle by signing his name for the girls.

By this time the newspapermen had arrived, replete with their press passes that could "get them in anywhere," and were amazed at finding the girls in the Eisenhower bailiwick.

Join Photogs "How did you get in?" the reporters asked.

"We just rang the bell," the girls answered.

When the press photographers began popping away, Miriam (Continued on page eight)

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Innocence"  
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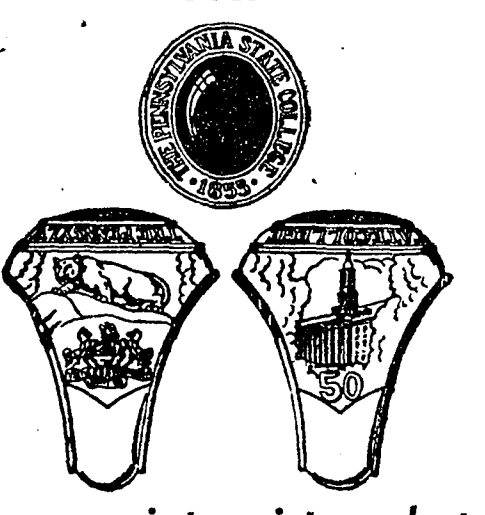
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