

There Was A Time When . . .

Coed Gym Classes Once Held In Dairy

This is the first in a series of two articles tracing the growth of women's required and intramural athletics at the College.

By BETTIE LOUX

Less than 20 years ago gym class to coeds meant pulling on a pair of black serge bloomers, dark stockings, and a middy blouse, and trekking to the Dairy building or the Methodist church for a session of tap dancing or speedball.

It was not until 1938 that Mary Beaver White hall was built, and the present centralized curriculum of diversified activities established. That year marked the culmination of nearly half a century's work toward getting adequate facilities and equipment for the women's physical education program.

Classes in Armory

The year 1892 marked the beginning of a program of physical activities for women. Classes were held in the Armory, and although gymnastics received the greatest emphasis, instruction in tennis, horseback riding, sleigh-riding, sledding, and dancing was also given. A "Physical Culture" course was made a requirement for freshmen and sophomores in 1908.

Because of the absence of a woman instructor, William E. Lewis, director of the gymnasium and minor sports, began teaching the classes. Because Mr. Lewis was very busy with the men's program of physical culture, "the women usually reported to class, were marked for attendance, and were allowed to leave the Armory—getting an A for the semester in gym."

No Dressing Rooms

There were no dressing rooms or showers, and in 1916 the work committee of the Central Pennsylvania branch of the Association of Collegiate Alumnae started using its influence to obtain a gymnasium for the women. It was decided that nothing could be done about the situation until it was certain the women desired "athletic advantages."

There was little interest in athletics at that time because of a lack of a "secluded spot for practice" and conflicting class schedules, and when the women declined Lewis' offer to provide them with hockey equipment nothing more was done.

Women Drilled

The lack of a woman instructor caused the College to engage Marjorie Sime, also a part-time Home Economics instructor. All women were required to take two years of physical education, which included marching, setting-up exercises, folk dancing, and games. An officer of the military department drilled the women.

Field hockey and volleyball were played in the fall, basketball in the winter, and riding, baseball and tennis were spring activities. Two or three basketball games were played with other schools, including Bellefonte and Williamsport. Hiking was also popular with the girls, and credit was given to any student who hiked a certain distance. The program was still poorly organized, for if it rained and classes were scheduled outdoors, the classes could not meet.

Track and golf were offered for the first time in 1919, and the women were permitted to use the rifle range in the Armory.

Engagements

Abel-Grosky

Mr. and Mrs. Reuben Grosky, of Lebanon, Pa., have announced the engagement of their daughter, Dorothy, to Frank Abel, Harrisburg, son of Mrs. Bessie Lehrman, Washington, D.C.

Miss Grosky is a senior in the School of Liberal Arts. Mr. Abel is associated with the Harrisburg Grocery company.

Degler-Sperber

Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Sperber, of Elkins Park, have announced the engagement of their daughter, Ellen, to Stanley Degler, son of Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Degler of R D 1, Zionsville.

Miss Sperber and Mr. Degler graduated from the College in January in the curriculum of journalism.

Mr. Degler was news editor of the Collegian last year. He is now sports editor of the Daily Republican in Monongahela. Miss Sperber is a reporter for the Daily Notes in Canonsburg.

Fishman-Sher

Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Sher, of Oak Lane, Philadelphia, have announced the engagement of their daughter, Ruth, to Erwin Fishman, son of Mr. and Mrs. Nathan Fishman, also of Oak Lane.

Miss Sher is an alumnus of the college. Mr. Fishman is a senior in liberal arts, a science major, and a member of Beta Sigma Rho fraternity.

Cooper-Seltzer

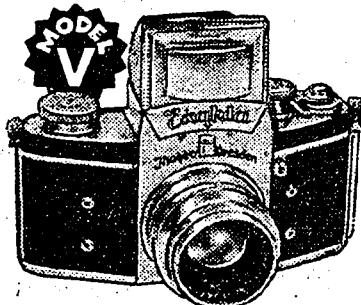
Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Seltzer of Perkasie, have announced the engagement of their daughter, Bernice, to Bernard Cooper, son of Mr. and Mrs. Abe Cooper of Elkins Park.

Miss Seltzer is a junior in liberal arts and a member of Alpha Epsilon Phi sorority. Mr. Cooper is a junior in commerce and finance and is a member of Beta Sigma Rho fraternity.

West Dorm Semi-Formal To Feature Jack Huber

This Friday, Jack Huber's orchestra, with Polly Potter as vocalist, will play for a semi-formal dance from 9-12 p.m. in the main lounge of West Dorms.

A square dance will be held in the same lounge Saturday night, with music by "Jessie James and Boys."



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Applications

Coeds who will be attending summer school may apply now for rooms in the dean of women's office, according to Mrs. Cordelia Hibbs, housing director.

First Woman Initiated Into Pi Alpha Xi

Dolores de Cardona, Puerto Rican graduate student in floriculture, is the first woman to be initiated into Pi Alpha Xi, national honorary floriculture fraternity.

Miss Cardona, who will receive her master's degree in June, is studying leaf burn of the Easter lily. She graduated from the College of Agriculture and Mechanical Arts at Mayaguez, Puerto Rico.

Walter W. Trainer, supervisor of landscape construction and maintenance for the College, was named an associate member, and Wayne H. Wilson, associate professor of landscape horticulture, was initiated into the honorary.

Students tapped include Charles Green, Joseph Hudak, Louis M. Lafoon, Joseph Maloney, Merlin Miller, Chester Olweiler, John Stinson, and Albert Zihner Jr.

Officers of Gamma chapter are Donald Egolf, president; Paul Waitkus, vice-president; James Atkinson, secretary; and Harold Kreiser, treasurer. Prof. Robert Meahl is the faculty adviser.

Phi Mu Host At Convention

Beta Mu chapter of Phi Mu sorority was host to the District IV convention held last Friday through Sunday at the College.

Approximately 150 collegiate and alumnae members were present at the convention. The five colleges represented were Dickinson, Gettysburg, Bucknell university, University of Pittsburgh, and Indiana State-Teachers college. Five alumnae groups, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Wilmington, Del., Lewisburg, and State College were represented.

Various awards were presented. The Dickinson chapter received the scholarship cup; the Pittsburgh chapter, the fraternity education cup; and the Bucknell group, the Ruth B. Raiford memorial achievement award.

The program for the weekend included a coffee hour on Friday evening, followed by a model rushing party. Conferences were held on Saturday, and in the evening a formal banquet was held at the State College hotel.

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Co-Edits

Zeta Tau Alpha

Zeta Tau Alpha sorority entertained Pi Kappa Phi fraternity with a picnic at Whipple's dam Saturday afternoon.

The afternoon program consisted of volleyball, football, softball, and bridge games.

A picnic supper of hot dogs, potato salad, and cake, was served.

Theta Kappa Phi

New officers of Theta Kappa Phi fraternity are Oliver McDonnell, president; John Beiter, vice-president; and Vincent Calery, secretary.

Chi Phi

Officers of Chi Phi fraternity for next year will be William Klisanin, president; John Schulte, vice-president; Lynn McCaffrey, secretary; Richard Brow, treasurer; and Samuel Nowell, historian.

Ex-Engineering Student Assigned To Infantry

Private Robert E. Pascuzzi of West Warren has been assigned to the 8th Infantry Division, Fort Jackson, S. C. for basic training.

He graduated from the College in January '51 with a B.S. degree in industrial engineering.

Chimes Taps 17 Women

Chimes, national junior women's honorary tapped 17 coeds this morning.

New Chimes are Bette Agnew, Carolyn Alley, Ann Broomall, Shirley Bush, Joyce Buchanan, Lee Coy, Bernadine Fulton, Janet Horger, Joanne Luyben, Virginia McMillan, Margaret Mayberry.

Marion Morgan, June Moylan, Ruth Peirce, Betty Ann Richardson, Virginia Welliver, and Joan Yerger.

The new members were tapped at 6 a.m. and then attended a breakfast held in McElwain hall by retiring members. The dean of women's staff was invited to the breakfast. Pearl O. Weston, dean of women, gave a short talk.

Dr. Clements Speaks At Phila. Conference

Dr. Robert J. Clements, head of the Romance Languages department at the College, was one of three speakers at the Eastern Conference on the Renaissance, held in Philadelphia Saturday.

Dr. Clements spoke on "Michelangelo Buonarroti, Art Critic," and analyzed the underlying theories and persuasions behind Michelangelo's spoken and written judgments on other artists.

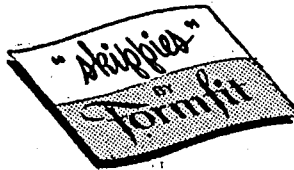
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