

The Daily Collegian

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Attendance Hurt Honors Program

The addition of an Honors Day program to the yearly calendar of events at Penn State must stand as one of the most outstanding and worthwhile projects of the first year of Prexy Milton S. Eisenhower.

Virtually every college or university which dares to call itself such has a program similar to the one held here for the first time last Wednesday.

Included in the program were the installation of the All-College President, the presentation of the 13 top scholastic honors, and the presentation of awards to five distinguished alumni.

The innovation of the Distinguished Alumnus Awards is in itself a significant step forward. Since the College is not able to present honorary degrees, many of the outstanding men and women the College has sent into every walk of life have gone without recognition from their Alma Mater. The distinguished Alumnus awards fill that gap.

A shortcoming of the program, as indeed the Prexy himself recognized, was the failure to recognize outstanding academic accomplishments. Without burdening the program too much, service to the College could also be recognized at such an occasion.

The major shortcoming of the affair, however, was the completely dismal showing made by the undergraduates and by the faculty. A generous guess is that less than 900 attended the ceremony.

Faculty members have been wont to criticize the students for failing to attend the ceremony. Let them remember, however, that there are approximately 1000 on the faculty. Where were they last Wednesday?

For the student body there is little excuse for the poor attendance. Advance notice and publicity were ample. Classes were dismissed for an hour and a half. But the overwhelming majority of the students accepted the hour and a half simply as that much more time to loaf.

The thousands of students who swarmed down the Mall past the open doors of Schwab Auditorium did so in disrespect for their own student government, for their fellow students honored during the ceremonies, for the honored alumni, and for the Prexy.

STUDENT EMPLOYMENT

For information concerning the following jobs, applicants should stop in 112 Old Main.

Room in exchange for work available for all summer sessions.

Summer sales, opportunities: Electrolux; Better Brushes; The Bible; commission basis; optional territory. Representatives from Lillian Taylor Camp, Valensia, Pa. will be on campus Wednesday, May 9 between 2 p.m. and 5 p.m. Positions in general counseling and maintenance are available for men and women students.

Changes Made In Frosh Customs

Customs returned to the Penn State campus last year for the first time since pre-World War II days. Despite the fact that program was new and different to most people on campus, the program went off well.

There were few excesses, and what excesses there were were handled by the Hat Societies Council, the group charged with responsibility for carrying out the program.

As was to be expected, the program had several shortcomings. In order to eliminate some of these shortcomings, three additions and six changes have been made.

Women's and men's customs will be parallel in so far as possible. Because of previous plans by the Freshman Customs and Regulations Board, this coordination will not be complete this year. Although only men may "inflict" customs on men and the women on the women (as was the rule last year), the new code makes it possible for frosh of both sexes to participate in mixed cheering and singing under the direction of upper classmen and women.

In addition, incoming freshmen will be given advance notice of the program, and the program itself will be shorter.

The six changes in the program correct some of the failures of last year's customs. No changes or additions however, compel upper class participation in the program. With the program in its infancy last year, it was to be expected that enforcing of customs would be in the hands of the hat societies, which could function as organized groups. Even then, however, participation by the student body was requested.

Upperclass participation was poor last year. It will have to improve next fall if a sane and constructive customs program is to continue.

Gazette . . .

Tuesday, May 8

ANDROCLES, Phi Kappa Psi, 8 p.m.
CAMPUS CHEST, PSCA office, 8:30 p.m.
CHRISTIAN SCIENCE organization, Home Economics living quarters, 8:05 p.m.
CIRCLE AND SQUARE, 304 Old Main, 6:30 p.m.

COLLEGIAN business candidates, 2 Carnegie Hall, 7 p.m.

COLLEGIAN business junior and sophomore boards, 9 Carnegie Hall, 7 p.m.

ENGINEERING student council, 107 Main Engineering, 7 p.m.

FROTH, promotion, junior, sophomore, and candidates 100 Carnegie Hall 7:30 p.m.

FROTH circulation staff, 405 Old Main, 7:30 p.m.

MI STUDENT COUNCIL, 107 Willard Hall, 7 p.m.

NAACP, 303 Willard Hall, 7:30 p.m.

NEWMAN club, business meeting, 219 Electrical Engineering, 7 p.m.

PANHELLENIC COUNCIL, 208 Willard Hall, 7 p.m.

PI LAMBDA THETA, get acquainted meeting, McElwain lounge, 7:30.

WRA BOWLING, White Hall alleys, 7 p.m.

WRA FENCING, White Hall, 7 p.m.

COLLEGE PLACEMENT

Further information concerning interviews and job placements can be obtained in 112 Old Main.

Koppers Company will interview Juniors in Chem. Eng., C.E., and Chem. for summer work Friday, May 18. A 1.5 average and veterans are preferred.

Fidelity Mutual Life Insurance Company will interview June graduates interested in insurance sales who live in one of the following counties: Franklin, Cumberland, Juniata, Perry, York, Dauphin, Lancaster, and Lebanon on Tuesday, May 15.

The Otis Elevator Company will interview June graduates in M.E. and E.E. Wednesday, May 16.

Little Man On Campus

By Bibler



"It's hard to believe that in one week finals will make this place so busy students will come early just to get a seat."

Safety Valve . . .

Can 'Rides Wanted' List Be Returned

TO THE EDITOR:

I wish to register my dismay and general concern at the seemingly uncalled-for movement of the information sheets for drivers and passengers from Old Main to the TUB. For over four years now I have made use of these sheets both as a passenger and, more recently, a driver and have found them a valuable convenience.

Their previous location has always seemed to be an ideal one since it can't be denied that Old Main is truly the crossroads of the campus. On the other hand, while the TUB is a more convenient location for some of the dormitories, the extra time consuming walk involved for the great majority of the student body is considerable.

In addition, I find it hard to swallow the fact that the NSA intends to police and impose penalties upon the student using this convenience when the lists have been operating successfully without interference for so long. Surely, the members of the NSA can find more useful outlets for their excess energy.

I would very much appreciate hearing any reasons that the NSA might have for not moving the lists back to Old Main as soon as possible.

—Gilbert H. Friedman

It's Tough To Publish

TO THE EDITOR:

There are scores of young literary artists who have turned out novels that can't get into print because the publishers don't want to take any risk with unknowns who insist on turning out fiction that's far from the conventional. They're having a much tougher time than the literary artists of thirty years ago.

About eighty per cent of our post-1912 critics, novelists, poets, and story-tellers were first printed in little magazines. Now the little magazines have folded because of rising costs and the public's preference for picture magazines like Life, Look, Pic, and the like, or mass circulation magazines like "Reader's Indigestion" which use their media primarily for the purpose of indoctrinating the public into a firmer acceptance of the "American Way of Life." Most magazines accept little original stuff today, preferring to keep their own staff writers on tap to do hurry up jobs along specified lines. Such a stable of prize jackasses costs less, too.

Many freelance authors are complaining that it is ten times as hard to sell a piece as it was, say, twenty years ago. The staff writers who do most of the writing today are high-class press-tutes. There's no doubt about it—the system is raising hell with artistic creativeness.

—A Druschel

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SHOWTIME 8:30 P.M.

TUESDAY

"Saddle Tramp" (Technicolor)
Joel McCrea
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Also Selected Short Subjects

Wednesday & Thursday

"Ma and Pa Kettle Go to Town"
Marjorie Main
Percy Kilbride

Also Selected Short Subjects

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