

Coeds, 1880 Style . . .

Male-Female Ratio Improved Since 1871

By JOHN SHEPPARD

The male population of Penn State finds the unfortunate male-female ratio—for which the College is so noted, in feminine circles at least—some sort of an excuse when a coed replies to a polite invitation, "Why, I'd love to, Bob, but I'm busy this weekend."

Time was though, when the ratio was even more unfortunate, when coeds were as scarce as professors opposed to homework.

The first woman student at the College, Ellen Cross, registered on August 29, 1871. According to writings in past Collegians, Miss Cross stated, "My understanding of the origin of the women's department of the College is this. Dr. James Calder, president, believed in coeducation, and proposed it for the Pennsylvania State College. He invited two young women of Hillsdale to go with him to start the department. I was fortunate in being one of the two invited."

First Degree

Sara Robinson, daughter of the Rev. Francis A. Robinson, at that time a professor of mathematics and civil engineering at the College, followed Miss Cross. In early catalogues, Miss Robinson was listed as an instructor in music, from 1871 to 1873.

Rebecca Ewing, a member of the class of 1873, was the first woman to receive a degree from the College.

Until the early 1900's, women took very little part in activities. In 1888, however, Caroline Hunter was named associate editor of the Free Lance, predecessor of the Daily Collegian. The first women's debate team was organized Nov. 5, 1926.

Wool Bloomers

Honor women at the College were first selected in 1922. Titles such as Bow Girl, Slipper Girl, and Fan Girl were used to recognize senior women who had made outstanding contributions to the College. This practice has been continued through the years. The women are selected by vote of the senior class, and are honored at Class Night ceremonies.

Physical education was not required for women until 1892. Organized gym classes were begun in 1893. Gym costumes included heavy blue wool serge bloomers, middie blouses, black stockings, and white tennis shoes.

12 Deans of Women

Greek letter societies for women were first begun in 1911. At that time one was organized and kept secret until 1912, when it was forced to disband. In June, 1926, the student welfare committee granted permission to local clubs to petition charters from women's national sororities. Chi Omega was the first sorority established at the College, in 1926. Today there are 19 national sororities on campus.

Twelve women have served as Dean of Women since the office, under a different title, was created in 1872. Jane W. Hoyt, preceptress and instructor in German and French, served as the first Dean of Women, from 1872 to 1874; Pearl O. Weston, present Dean of Women, succeeded Charlotte E. Ray, who served in the office from 1923 to 1946.

WRA, WSGA Plan Election Discussion

Plans for the coming WSGA and WRA elections will be discussed at the WRA executive board meeting, Tuesday night.

Mary Jane Woodrow, president of Women's Student Government Association, and Joanne Williams, head of the WSGA election committee, will be present to discuss the elections to be held at the end of March.

Nancy Worthington has been named chairman of WRA elections and Carolyn Barrett will assist her.

Fraternity Hears Jeffrey

A talk by soccer coach Bill Jeffrey and movies of his trip to Iran highlighted an informal smoker Tuesday night at Sigma Phi Alpha fraternity.

Jeffrey is an honorary member of the fraternity. Refreshments consisted of hot chocolate, cake, and ice cream.

Lelyveld Says Self Is Insufficient

Having no purpose beyond self is a tragedy because man is incomplete and insecure in himself and needs to share something greater than self in order to find contentment, Rabbi Arthur J. Lelyveld said Tuesday night.

Addressing a Religion-in-Life Week audience which overflowed McElwain lounge, the national director of B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundations noted that we are insecure today in direct proportion as men and women fifty years ago felt completely sure of themselves. Men believed then that in just a little while more man would completely master all difficulties with his ever-increasing knowledge and understanding, and would have a perfect world.

Depth of Pessimism

Rabbi Lelyveld noted that while we still pay lip service today to the ideals and values held by people fifty years ago, we find that we lack a firm conviction in them when they must be put to use.

The major characteristic of the mid-twentieth century is a depth of pessimism, the scholar noted. To counteract it, we must find a contentment independent of external circumstances which shake our confidence and security, he said.

Mt. Sinai Covenant

The tragedy of man, the rabbi noted, is not that he suffers, but that he sets his own suffering and doubts as the frontier of his living—that he has no frontier, no demand, no commitment beyond self.

The commitment he suggested was the Judeo-Christian covenant made between God and man at Mt. Sinai in the days of Moses—a covenant making God and man co-partners throughout life.

Rabbi Lelyveld suggested a dedicated search for a faith which would grow out of the individual's religious traditions while it welcomed new insights and ideas and examined them in the light of previous knowledge.

250 Persons Tour Foods Department

More than 250 persons participating in the Penn State Ambassador Tour were shown the operation of the foods department Wednesday night.

The tour was the second of a series planned by the Penn State Club of Centre County, and was under the supervision of Mildred Baker.

The third tour will be held at the speech and hearing clinic, Tuesday, March 11.

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Co-Edits

Phi Kappa

Thomas Stegner has been elected president of Phi Kappa recently. Other new officers are Gerald Walsh, vice president; Francis Pramuk, secretary, and Bernard Gruber, treasurer.

Phi Sigma Delta

Phi Sigma Delta has pledged Eli Arenberg, Barry Bredt, Arnold Endelman, Allen Fruit, Larry Gedrich, Warren Gittlen, Benjamin Lowenstein, Jack Nitberg, Howard Schwartz, Marvin Shapiro, and Donald Zappin.

Kappa Delta Rho

Kappa Delta Rho has initiated Bernard Ambrose, Robert Collins, Benjamin Faust, Robert Gehman, Richard Kartlick, John Kiser, Thomas Lazaroff, Lavern Merrill, Thomas Pyle, and David Simon.

100 Coeds Sign Rushing Forms

About 100 coeds have filled out preliminary registration forms for formal sorority rushing so far, Mary Brewer, assistant to the Dean of Women, said yesterday.

Second semester freshman women with averages of 1.5 or above and upperclasswomen with 1.0 or better All-College averages may register for formal rushing any time this week in the Dean of Women's office, at a pre-rush meeting 11 a.m. Saturday in 121 Sparks, or from 6 to 9 p.m. Sunday in Woman's Building.

In addition to filling out cards, coeds must bring transcripts and a \$1 fee to complete registration. No woman who has not registered by 9 p.m. Sunday may rush, Miss Brewer said.

Panhellenic Council officers will explain further details concerning rushing at the Saturday morning meeting. In the afternoon the 19 sororities will hold Open House in their suites.

Radio Station --

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when a number of points in the Sinnemahoning Valley were isolated.

Operating under the call letters W8YA, the staff rendered service to the public by clearing and relaying important messages from the stricken area, which materially assisted the work of the American Red Cross and other local authorities in providing relief to the distressed communities.

For its services the station received a certificate of public service from the Western Union Telegraph Company.

The third call was last month when the station was put on a stand-by emergency because of the flooded Ohio River. When the waters in the Susquehanna had reached their crest and began to fall, the emergency was lifted.

WSGA Votes To Elect New Frosh

By GINGER OPCZENSKI

Rescinding its vote to appoint Freshman Council members to replace those ineligible to hold office this semester, the Women's Student Government Association Senate voted last night to hold elections to fill the posts.

Eight council members must resign because they did not make the 1.5 average required of all WSGA officeholders.

"Our Future Is Now" is the general theme of the Associated Women Students convention being planned for April 23 to 26, Joan Lee, chairman, said.

Miss Lee outlined events being planned for delegates to the convention. These include the sophomore and junior honoraries' banquet, a tea for the deans and delegates, and the olympic try-outs, for which 50 tickets have been reserved. Speeches and panel discussions are also being arranged.

Elizabeth Johnson, Leonides vice president, asked for suggestions for an independent sweetheart to be turned in at the Student Union desk in Old Main by noon. The sweetheart and two delegates will be sent to a convention at the University of Oklahoma April 10, 11, and 12 with all expenses paid.

Mary Jane Woodrow, president of WSGA, read a letter from Mortar Board, senior women's honorary, asking for suggestions of names of seventh or eighth semester women students who "have worked diligently for their organizations" and have not previously been tapped by Cwens or Chimes. Mortar Board will honor these women at a breakfast, Miss Woodrow said.

Pollock Council To Hold Elections

Elections for next year's officers of the Pollock Dormitory Council will be held at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Joseph Haines, president, announced.

A total of eight nominations were accepted for the offices of president, vice-president, and secretary at a meeting held Tuesday night, but there were no nominations for treasurer.

The candidates for the council posts are president, Frank Shrey, William Tyson, and Joseph Haines; vice-president, Alexander Long, David Wright, Richard Morman and James Hand; and secretary, Robert Barrett.

An eager French fisherman hauled up the first submarine cable across the English Channel the day after it was laid in August, 1850. He thought it was an eel.

Engagements

VanderSluis-Harvie

Mr. and Mrs. Harry D. Harvie of Chambersburg have announced the engagement of their daughter, Jean, to Kenneth VanderSluis, son of Mr. and Mrs. Leonard VanderSluis of Hollin, Michigan.

Miss Harvie is an alumna of the College and a member of Gamma Phi Beta. She is doing graduate work in mathematics here.

Mr. VanderSluis is a graduate of Baldwin-Wallace College, where he majored in physics. He is attending the College and working for his doctor's degree.

'Frosh Day' Opens for 48 Coeds

Forty-eight first semester freshman women will gather at 12:30 p.m. today in front of the Carnegie Hall bulletin board to carry out "Frosh Day," as arranged by Cwens, sophomore women's activities honorary.

The rally, which was approved by Joan Yerger, chairman of the Freshmen Customs and Regulations Board, was undertaken by Cwens as a means to encourage spirit in the new freshmen women on campus, according to Marian Ungar, chairman of the project.

With only a few days remaining for women's customs to be in effect, it was pointed out at the Cwens meeting Monday night that many of the new freshmen do not know the College songs and cheers. This is the main reason why the "Frosh Day" project is being sponsored, Miss Ungar said.

Roll call will be taken at the gathering since it is felt that all first semester women should be there for the project to have its greatest effect. Roseann Monack and Lois Brown, members of the cheerleading squad, will direct the freshmen in songs and cheers.

Another purpose of the rally is to have the first semester women gather in mass for one of the few times since orientation. Members of Cwens believe that the rally will give the freshman women an opportunity to become acquainted with members of their group and to encourage spirit within that group, Miss Ungar said.

Announcements have been made in the freshman living units, and signs have been posted at various places on campus. Those freshmen who do not attend the gathering will have to appear before the FCRB.

Since customs are still in effect for first semester women, they will be expected to wear their bows and to carry their Student Handbooks. Cwens will check these at the rally.

Phaedrus philosophized:

You will soon break the bow if you keep it always stretched

Fables



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