

# The Daily Collegian

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## 'No Date' Ban Needs Revision

At the Freshman Council meeting Monday night, several council members expressed disapproval of the "no dating" rules enforced during the freshman customs period. We have long been of the opinion that this ruling is not only useless, but harmful.

One member explained that the first few weeks of college life for a new freshman is the most difficult period of adjustment. Impressions of Penn State made during those weeks will determine the outlook the student will carry with him during his entire college career. Dating and associating naturally with people of the opposite sex is one of the strongest influences which makes young people become favorably conditioned to any atmosphere, the college campus not excluded.

A sudden prohibition of dating on a young group of people who have been dating during high school days is completely unnatural. The picture is even more distorted when you realize that these first few weeks offer the best chance many students have ever had of making new contacts among people with mutual interests and mutual problems of adjustment.

It has been argued that the first few weeks of no dating are aimed at forcing the "women to get to know the other women and the men to get to know the other men." Surely the around-the-clock contact that people living in the same dormitories have will be ample opportunity for the frosh to meet and get to know as many of their fellow students as they may wish. Surely the process of "getting acquainted" will not suffer by the loss of four or five hours on Friday and Saturday nights.

Nor can it logically be argued that dating, at least limited to weekends, will seriously hamper study practices. Phone calls have always been permitted to freshmen during the week, and it is doubtful that if dating is permitted the number of calls will increase. And just how many people, even if they have nothing else to do, will study on the first few weekends of school?

As a negative argument, it has been found that "no dating" customs are practically impossible to enforce. No group is large enough to watch every extra-curricular movement of 2000 men and women. The job becomes even more difficult on weekends when freshmen are permitted to remove customs. You may say "you can always tell a freshman," but that green look is pretty hard to distinguish on the wearer of high heels or a blue serge suit.

For these reasons, we feel dating should be allowed during the customs period, at least on weekends. The imposing of 10 or 11 o'clock permissions on freshman women should appease the consciences of those who are afraid freshmen will "run wild" if given all the privileges of upperclassmen.

—Ginger Opocenski

## Freshman Council Battles a Ghost

It is so infrequently that we hear a voice among women student leaders urging cooperation with the men, that the words of Janice Holm, a member of Freshman Council of Women's Student Government Association, bear repeating and emphasis.

Speaking on the proposed revisions of the customs program, Miss Holm was quoted as saying, "We are all Penn Staters and working on customs jointly will give freshmen a feeling of belonging. By working with the men, we can help with their enforcement of customs without losing anything ourselves. Two weeks of cooperating with the men will not ruin our government."

Of all that has been said in the current discussion concerning the loss of "power" by WSGA as a result of the new program, little has been said that cuts straight through all the negative verbiage to the essence of the issue, as effectively as Miss Holm's statement.

The new customs program is not aimed at stripping WSGA or anybody else of power. Nor does the program accomplish this, wittingly or unwittingly. The sole purpose of the program is to make the customs program effective in its operation.

The fear that the program is designed to

remove power from WSGA was expressed in the provision placed on the program by the Freshman Council. The council has asked that the women members of the proposed Freshman Customs Board be approved by WSGA Senate as well as by All-College Cabinet.

It seems to us that if WSGA would like to have the women members of the Freshman Customs Board approved by its Senate, that is an internal matter. We suspect that the chairman of Judicial would make these appointments after due consultation with WSGA or its officers. If WSGA would like to make certain that the appointments meet with the Senate's approval prior to their reaching cabinet, that is the business of WSGA.

The plan is in this phase—the appointment being approved by cabinet—similar to the current provisions governing the appointment of the Tribunal and Judicial chairmen. These appointments are made by a joint body, including the Dean of Men and the Dean of Women in an ex-officio capacity, subject to the approval of All-College Cabinet.

In its anxiety to protect somewhat nebulous "powers" from infringement by the men, the council has merely placed a check upon the Judicial chairman's authority to appoint the women members of the joint board. Its action is a good example of what can happen when a legislative body takes to jousting with a ghost.

## Chapel Donors Should Be Heard

In 1907, Penn State inaugurated an experiment in international education, with Penn State-in-China. Under this arrangement, weekly offerings collected in the non-sectarian chapel were sent to aid in supporting Lingnan University.

But when the Chinese Communists took over the country, they cut off such Western influences. For a while, then, the Chapel money was sent to support the research of Penn State's "Daddy" Groff in Florida, in hopes that he could soon return to the university, and with him, Penn State-in-China. It has now become evident that this is impossible.

What, then, to do with the Chapel offerings? A strong movement has begun to keep the money on campus. The idea would be to construct a small chapel with it here. Significantly, this year's senior architecture project is the designing of such a chapel. Strong support for this scheme is indicated from a number of sources.

The main arguments offered for use of the funds for a campus chapel seem to be these:

1. The offering—around \$6500 a year—is too small to make any significant difference in any international project.
2. The federal government is investing huge sums in foreign aid anyway.
3. Penn State needs a small chapel.

With the third proposition, we have no quarrel. But the first two seem to be the most shallow of rationalizations. The original idea of Penn State-in-China was completely selfless—an American university would aid, as far as it was able, an educational project on the other side of the world. Contributors would probably never see Lingnan University, but they knew that, in a small way, they were helping to bring about international understanding through its strongest ally, education.

The diverting of these funds to enhancement of the Penn State campus would be a complete negation of the idea behind Penn State-in-China—selfishness would replace selflessness as the thought behind Chapel donations. As to the comparatively small size of the annual contribution, the theory behind private charities is that, small in themselves, they pyramid into something worthwhile when combined. However much the United States government may be sending abroad, \$6500 more is \$6500 more, and if the amount brings higher education to a single youth of a friendly nation, it has been worth the effort. Such a contribution to education, in a country like India, where Western ideals are in active conflict with communist thought, would be a small drop toward filling a large, valuable bucket.

One thing is clear. Whatever is done with the funds, it must not be done hastily. With a prize already being offered for the design of just such a chapel as has been suggested, it seems evident that such a move for haste is on.

The people who, week in, week out, make their donations in Chapel, should certainly be consulted as to what should be done with their money. The student-faculty committee appointed to reassign the money should arrange for such a consultation, and consider its results most seriously.

—Ron Bonn

## Gazette . . .

Wednesday, March 19

AIM board of governors, 104 Willard Hall, 7 p.m.

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERS, 105 Agricultural Engineering, 7 p.m.

CHESS CLUB, 3 Sparks, 7 p.m.

COFFEE HOUR, dean of men and cabinet, 109 Old Main, 4 p.m.

NEWMAN CLUB lecture-discussion, Professor Case in charge, Rectory basement, 7:30 p.m.

RIDING CLUB, 217 Willard Hall, 7 p.m.

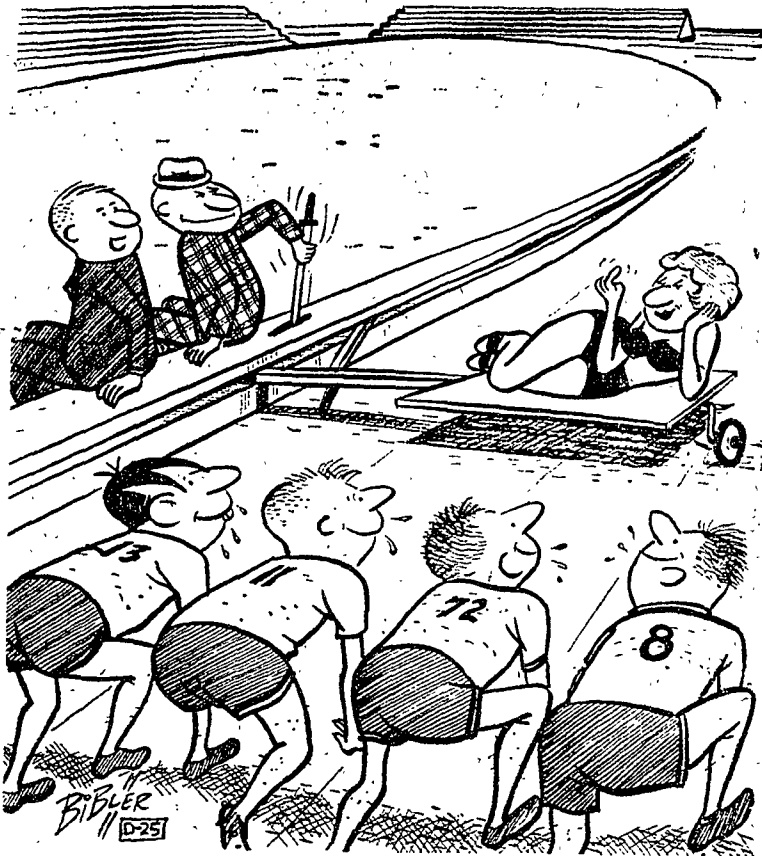
SLAVONIC HONORARY, 105 Willard Hall, 7:30 p.m.

THETA SIGMA PHI, Grange game room, 6:30 p.m.

TRIBUNAL, 201 Old Main, 7 p.m.

WRA MODERN DANCE GROUP, Modern dance room, 7 p.m.

## Little Man On Campus By Bibler



"Mighty nice of them to let you use the dog track for track practice, huh coach?"

### Interpreting the News

## Germ War Farce May Have Plot

By J. M. ROBERTS JR.

Associated Press News Analyst

Why are the communists making such a big play of their totally insupportable charge that the United States is employing germ warfare in China and Korea?

You might expect them to reason that the ultimate backfire would weaken rather than strengthen their whole propaganda campaign. It is almost inconceivable to the Western mind that the deputy foreign minister of a great power, the same who was responsible for starting the Korean truce negotiations, should stand before the United Nations and make such charges. It is reminiscent of Hitler's attempt to make it appear that Poland attacked the great German Reich.

Western diplomats long ago found it unprofitable to attempt to read the enemy mind. But some speculative answers, even though seemingly shortsighted, appear easy.

The communists are conducting a hate campaign against the United States. This fits it.

There probably are epidemics in China—although Chinese troops in Korea generally seem to be well-fed, well-clothed and in good shape. The Reds can use the propaganda campaign to explain away their inability to control the spread. The Reds used this system in Germany to explain an epidemic of potato bugs. One would not be surprised someday, in the event of a particularly disastrous winter, to see the Rus-

sian scientists called upon to prove that it all originated in Wall Street.

Let us suppose, James D. White, AP Far East expert says, that Russia really wanted a truce in Korea—that she does not yet trust the Chinese Reds to the point of giving them enough arms to really clean up Korea, and also that she does not want to run the risk of general war now. But the Chinese say "OK, but you got us into this. But how are we going to get out without appearing to cave in before the imperialist warmongers, without losing face, if not our political shirts?"

No satisfactory answer came along until the epidemics offered a possible out. Why not stir up a lot of fear and antagonism, and then appeal to the fatalism of the Oriental mind with the question, "How can you combat such barbaric methods?" It's an interesting speculation.

## Gazette . . .

COLLEGE PLACEMENT

Allis Chalmers Manufacturing Co. will interview graduates at all levels in M.E., E.E., Metal, Min., Chem., C.E., Cer. and Phys. Thursday, March 27.

Pennsylvania Glass Sand Corp. will interview June graduates in C&F, L&L, and Cer. Thursday, March 27.

Pennsylvania Salt Manufacturing Co. will interview June graduates in Ch.E. Thursday, March 27.

Shell Oil Co. (Manufacturing Dept.) will interview graduates at all levels in Chem. and Ch.E. and B.S. and M.S. candidates in M.E. Thursday, March 27.

Westaco Chemical Division will interview graduates at all levels in Chem. and Ch.E. Wednesday, March 26.

Carter Oil Co. will interview graduates at all levels in P.N.G., Ch.E.; M.S. candidates in Geology; and Ph.D. candidates only in Phys., E.E. and M.E. Monday, March 31.

Dupont will interview June graduates in A&L, Acct. and L.M.R. Monday, March 31.

Equitable Gas Co. will interview June graduates in M.E., Ch.E. and E.E. Thursday, March 27. Draft status is unimportant.

Glidden Co. will interview June graduates in M.E., Ch.E., Com. and Acct. Friday, March 28.

Jones and Laughlin Steel Corp. will interview June graduates in M.E., Ch.E., E.E., Chem., Phys., Metal., A&L and Com. Monday, March 31.

Koppers Co. General offices will interview June graduates in M.E. and C.E. for

their Eng. dept.; Ch.E., M.E. and Metal. for operating dept.; Ch.E. and B.S. and Ph.D. Chem. for research dept.; and Chem., Ch.E., I.E. and M.S. Econ. and Mkt. for sales Monday, March 31.

Koppers Co., Metal div. will interview June graduates in M.E., C.E., I.E., and E.E. Monday, March 31.

Koppers Co., Tarry Products Div. will interview June graduates in Ch.E., Min. E., and M.E. Monday, March 31.

Owens Corning Fiberglass Corp. will interview June graduates in Ch.E., Arch.E., C.E., E.E., I.E., M.E., Chem., Com.Ch., Sci., Arch., Acct., Adv., L.M.R. and Cer. Thursday, March 24.

American Steel and Wire Co. will interview June graduates in M.E., C.E., I.E., E.E., Ch.E., Metal. and Sci. majors in Math., Phys. or Chem. Tuesday, April 1.

Bendix Radio Corp. will interview June graduates in E.E. Tuesday, April 1.

Foster Wheeler Corp. will interview June graduates in Ch.E., C.E., I.E., M.E. and E.E. Tuesday, April 1.

North American Companies will interview June graduates in Com. and A&L Tuesday, April 1. Students who are draft exempt are preferred.

Ohio Oil Co. will interview June graduates in P.N.G. Tuesday, April 1.

United States Rubber Co. will interview June graduates in Chem., Ch.E., M.E., I.E., E.E. and Phys. Tuesday, April 1.

### STUDENT EMPLOYMENT

Childless married couple for local summer employment.

Experienced counterman.

Man for ink drawing Monday, Wednesday and Thursday.

Married men for local summer evening employment.