

# The Daily Collegian

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## Sorority Charters Needed Close Study

Last week, the College Senate approved two non-discriminatory student groups, now composed entirely of Negro women, which will in time become the first Negro sororities at Penn State.

Petitions for charters by these groups have been pending for some time, and the delay involved in granting them was necessary in order for the College to set up a policy regarding future requests.

Some people may have felt that the delay was because the College or other groups did not want Negro sororities at Penn State. The idea is ridiculous. What the College did want to do, however, was to protect itself from groups which would charge it with discriminating against the groups by not giving them sorority suites.

There are no suites for sororities available at this time, and it doesn't look as though any will be available for some time to come. Realizing this, the College knew it would have to carefully consider any action in view of the fact that certain groups seem to just be waiting to pounce on such things without first carefully checking the facts.

The College finally decided on the following course of action:

1. A group must exist as a local group for one year before it may petition a national organization;
2. A group must operate on a probationary basis for one year after petitioning a national sorority;
3. A group must have the tentative approval of a national organization before entering its second year of qualification;
4. A group must operate as a local for two years during which time the name under which it is operated must be distinctly different from any other existing group of its kind;
5. It must be specifically understood that no sorority suites are available and that no additional suites are planned.

In addition, any sorority which is granted a charter must certify in writing to the Senate student welfare committee that it clearly understands the conditions regarding suites. Also, upon petitioning a national organization, it must present to the committee a letter from the national group stating that the suite limitations are understood and are agreed to as a part of the conditions under which the charter would be granted.

To many the procedure may seem long and involved. Perhaps it is. But then we must also realize that the College is only trying to protect itself by discouraging irresponsible, fly-by-night organizations which could only damage the reputation of Penn State.

It remains now for Alpha Kappa Alpha and Delta Sigma Theta to petition the College under a local name. Approval as a local group will be given as of Feb. 1 of this year.

We add our congratulations and wishes for good luck to those the groups have already received. And, as they say in the Navy, it's nice to have them aboard.

## Firecracker Menace Must Be Stopped

Exploding firecrackers and the resulting noise may be a novelty once in a while to everyone, but when the explosions increase in number they become not only a nuisance to study but also a menace to safety.

The setting off of firecrackers in the West Dorms recently has grown into a major problem, and College authorities have stated that a stop must be put to their use.

One recent incident shows the possible danger of the use of firecrackers. One was thrown in the West Dorms without any heed to who might be nearby. As a result, it went off dangerously close to the face of one of the resident counselors. In this case, fortunately, there were no serious consequences.

The use of firecrackers is a violation of state law serious enough to warrant expulsion if a student is found guilty of having used them. The College disciplinary committee at first called on the good sense of West Dorm residents to recognize the disturbance and danger which firecrackers cause.

That request went unheeded. The College has indicated that it intends to put a stop to the use of firecrackers, and now the disciplinary committee apparently has lost patience.

One student already has been brought before the committee and placed on probation. In deciding this case the committee warned that, in the future, any student in possession of, or in any way connected with firecrackers, will be arraigned before it with the possibility of suspension hanging over him.

These will undoubtedly be "example cases" and the excuse, "There were a lot more involved," won't make the penalties lighter.

For those responsible, the wise thing to do would be to cease now. Freedom from the use of firecrackers would be a welcome relief not only to College authorities, but also to a majority of the student body.

—Jim Gromiller

## Gazette . . .

Thursday, May 8

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERS, election of officers, 105 Mechanical Engineering, 7 p.m.

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE ORGANIZATION, 304 Old Main, 6:45 p.m.

DE MOLAY CLUB, Home Economics Living Center, 7 p.m.

FROTH CIRCULATION STAFF meeting, 1 Carnegie, 6:15 p.m.

NEWMAN CLUB, scholastic philosophy lecture-discussion, John Hammes in charge, 317 Willard, 7:15 p.m.

NEWS AND VIEWS, 14 Home Economics, 6:30 p.m.

NITTANY GROTTO, 316 Frear Laboratory, 7:30 p.m.

MAD SCHLAMPS CLUB, 145 Sparks, 7:30 p.m.

PHI MU DELTA ASSOCIATION, meeting, 410 Old Main, 8 p.m.

### COLLEGE HOSPITAL

Jane Bianco, Margaret Binney, Joan Burket, Walter Daron, Barbara Felt, Merle Gearhart, Donald Hoffman, Frank Kennedy, Albert Kerr, Joan Maher, Warren Searfoss, Thomas Shriver, William Shult, Roy Tait, Walter Wurster.

### AT THE MOVIES

CATHAUM: The Return of the Texan 1:59, 3:54, 5:45, 7:38, 9:31

STATE: Rose of Cimarron 2:22, 4:11, 6:00, 7:49, 9:38

NITTANY: Decision before Dawn 6:15, 7:58, 9:35

### COLLEGE PLACEMENT

West Penn Power Co. has openings for June graduates in accounting. Those interested should leave their names in 112 Old Main before May 7.

Euclid Road Machinery Co. will interview June graduates in M.E., I.E., and Com. May 15.

Long Island Lighting Co. will interview June graduates and juniors in E.E. and M.E. May 15.

National Carbon Co. Inc. will interview Juniors for summer work in M.E., Ch.E., and E.E. May 16.

### STUDENT EMPLOYMENT

Men to work as ice cream dispensers evenings and week days. Camp Starlight, Starlight, Penna., will interview men and women May 9. Variety of jobs open.

Camp Linden, Northbrook, Penna., will interview men for August camp work.

Married couple for full time summer job near State College. Men with soda dispensing experience for Friday and Saturday night job.

Man interested in becoming member of student magazine agency for next fall.

Women for night clerking jobs. Camp Lillian Taylor will interview men and women May 15. Variety of jobs open.

Boy for nighttime work 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Bass player and tenor sax player for May 17. Student wife to do part time secretarial work in exchange for rent of apartment. Couple may have child.

## Little Man On Campus By Bibler



"I understand he just flunked his last round of blue books."

## Talk About Past Campus Shenanigans

By JIM GROMILLER

This column is not intended to be a weekly rehash of campus shenanigans out of the past, but since our initial report on the Poverty Day goings-on of the '20s last week we have had called to our attention a picture story in the current "The College," published for employees of the College, which delves into other campus customs of by-gone days.

Customs today are nothing compared with what they were back in the good old days, and our tug of war hardly deserves a mention along side of the old flag scrap which was campus custom from 1886 to 1916.

One contemporary described the brawl vividly, recalling that when the battle ended "tailors were in demand, the odor of arnica was distinguishable throughout the community, and the quarters of the participants might have been taken for an apothecary shop. The fight usually went on from Friday night until 1 p.m. Tuesday, when the outnumbered sophs gave up.

Object of the flag scrap called for freshmen, by subterfuge or brute force, to place their flag atop Old Main (later the Armory, or their own flag pole) with the sophomores standing in the way to prevent the flag raising or to pull the flag down the instant it was up.

As long as the enrollment remained small, the scrap was "good clean fun," but leave it to a college student's ingenuity—"abuses" multiplied—flour, soot, even stink bombs were used along with other "war machines" and gadgets which eventually made the classes admit that things had gone too far and a halt was called.

No all early customs, pranks or incidents were brutal though. The report in "The College" tells of the famous snow statue of Garibaldi, a

gentle poking of fun at austere President Atherton.

The recount of the story tells of the President, just returned from a European trip, loudly praising the Italian leader in chapel, pointing out that he had taken his hat off to Garibaldi's statue in Rome.

The next morning on campus appeared the snow statues of Garibaldi on his horse and President Atherton, head bared, high silk hat in hand, standing along side.

The snow art even earned a chuckle from President Atherton, quiet man that he was.

"Camp Suspension" apparently turned up to be more serious than either Garibaldi or the flag scrap, and presented a real crisis to the administration in 1889.

That's quite a way back, but we're certain of the year, since the whole incident arose when a student failed to return from vacation on time, giving as his excuse the Johnstown Flood. The faculty refused to accept the excuse and suspended the student, whereupon his entire class backed him up by refusing to attend an examination, preferring a ball game instead.

For this the entire class was suspended. In those days of snail pace communications it was days before the news of just how serious a catastrophe had been struck by the Cone-maugh River arrived.

Obtaining tents, the students set up their camp near what is (Continued on page five)

The TAVERN MENU Thursday, May 8 ITALIAN SPAGHETTI ROAST PORK with Applesauce BAKED STUFFED PEPPERS PRIME SIRLOIN STEAKS DINNER 5 - 7:30 p.m. Reservations after 6:30

FLOWERS with Love to Mother . . . Even if Mom can't be with you this weekend . . . choose her favorite flower . . . we'll telephone the order anywhere in the country. State College Floral Shop

TUXEDO RENTALS Hur's MEN'S SHOP Opposite Old Main