

WISE AND OTHERWISE

# Grades, Grades— Yes We Have 'Em

By DAVE JONES

There are two types of students at Penn State. Those who are graduated and those who are not. It is probably safe to say that most of those who do not graduate do so because they flunk out. This article should be of interest to both groups. It attempts to explain what determines who passes and who flunks. It deals with the Penn State grading system.

**PASSING GRADES**

Penn State uses the three point grading system in which there are three passing grades, 3, 2, and 1. A 3 in a course is the highest grade attainable and designates "excellent" work. A 2 in a course designates "good" and a 1 designates "fair." All these marks are passing and credit is given for any course in which the student receives 3, 2 or 1.

**IN BETWEEN GRADE**

There is one "in between" grade in the system which really may be considered passing. The student gets credit in the course, but no grade points, for this grade. This grade is 0, or "zip." A zip designates "passing" and, in general, courses that are zipped need not be repeated. However, in some cases, a student who zips a course in which he is majoring must repeat the course if it is required.

**FAILING GRADES**

There are two failing grades: -1, called "bar one," and -2, called a "bar two." The student receiving either a bar one or bar two in a course fails the course. If the course is required, it must be repeated. If it is an elective, it need not necessarily be repeated. Both grades count against a student because they give the student negative credits which must be compensated for with positive credits in other courses.

**ALL-COLLEGE AVERAGE**

Each course is worth a certain number of credits, designated in the College catalog. When the number of credits is multiplied by the course grade, the resultant is called "grade points." To be graduated, a student must have the same number of grade points as he has credits.

The All-College average is computed by dividing the sum total of all credits taken while at the College into the total grade points. The result is the All-College average. Therefore, to have the equal number of grade points and credits necessary for graduation, a student must have an All-College average of 1.

Seniors graduating with a 2.4 All-College average or higher are honor students. Any student who attains a 2.5 average in one semester is placed on his school's dean's list for that semester.

Phi Eta Sigma and Alpha Lambda Delta, national freshman scholastic honor societies, have chapters at the College. Both require an average of 2.5 during one semester of the freshman year for membership.

Any student whose All-College average falls below a .65 is placed under supervision of the Division of Intermediate Registration (DIR), which aids students whose scholarship is deficient.

**Way We See It --**

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fused, especially your first time. Even the seniors will be mixed up this year, as a new registration system is being tried out. We think that eventually the plan will prove to be a good one, but for the first few attempts—look out!

One precaution which may alleviate somewhat your registration woes is a carefully planned and drawn up trial schedule. One mistake, like writing in on your schedule as a ten o'clock class a class actually listed for eleven o'clock, can completely wreck your whole trial schedule and possibly delay you for an hour or more. And keep in mind that each delay you cause can slow up the whole registration process.

But don't let your early misfortunes upset you too much. It's all part of the game, and it's a mighty fine game.

**Grad Made Associate Editor of Magazine**

James S. Hornbeck, a graduate of the College, has been named associate editor of Architectural Record, a monthly magazine.

Hornbeck once served on the faculty of the department of architecture. He also did architectural work for the Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission, the atomic bomb project at Oak Ridge, and industrial firms.

**Ammerman Elected**

Charles R. Ammerman, assistant professor of electrical engineering, has been elected to the national advisory board of Eta Kappa Nu, honor society in electrical engineering.

Members of the six-man advisory board are named to two-year terms. The society has 55 chapters in United States colleges.

**The Rat Race**

## New Students Face College Date Crowds

By BETTIE LOUX

So you decided to come to a coeducational institution . . . because it's interesting to hear the viewpoints of the two sexes in the classroom, of course. The fact that binoculars trained on the windows of certain dorms bring more startling sights than might be seen at MIT is generally considered irrelevant.

Whatever the reason may be, you are here and thus will soon be introduced to the intricacies of dating at Penn State.

Your dates will no longer be the cozy, intimate affairs you knew at home . . . the privacy of a porch swing and the comfort of the living room haven for prolonged goodnights will be a thing of the past. Even an irate papa shouting that "It's time you went home, son," will seem like an angel next to . . . but we get to hostesses later.

When you get to your young lady's barracks you will proceed to the desk telephone to inform her that you have arrived. You won't see the phone, but it will be in the general vicinity of a mob. Rationalize that she probably isn't ready yet anyway, have a smoke, and join the stag line for a half-hour wait.

Of all the lines you'll stand in at college, this one by far is the most desirable. You stand smugly, like a connoisseur of feminine pulchritude, oogling each girl who steps into the lobby. Then the time comes when you step out into the open and, in front of appraising spectators, claim your bundle of joy for the evening.

Because of the meager entertainment facilities, your first question will not be "Where would you like to go tonight?" but "Which movie shall we see?" After deciding between a rowdy B western and a feather-light musical you will disregard the "Standing Room Only" sign and make your plunge in the direction of the nearest mob.

This time the mob will mark the aisle. Your enjoyment of the picture will be increased by the ringing of alarm clocks at appropriate moments and remarks from the stags behind you. The girl you dated the week before will invariably turn up in the seat beside you, if you get a seat. The heat from

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**Little Man on Campus**

By Bibl



"Well, now, that's more like it. Worthal—thanks for the cigarette."

**Collegian --**

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Collegian rest chiefly on the heads of the business staff, which includes advertising, circulation, and promotion departments. Composed of senior, junior, and sophomore boards, the business staff is responsible for the local and national advertising which helps to finance publication of the paper. A student fee of \$1.10 per semester also supports the paper.

Candidates for the business

staff will also be called for shortly. Classes to train the candidates will be held weekly. Promotions are made on the same basis and in a similar manner to those on the editorial boards.

Founded as the Free Lance in 1887, the Collegian progressed from a monthly literary publication to a four-page daily in 1941, and, in 1950, to an eight-page daily. Several 16-page papers and a special Sunday sports edition were published last year.

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