

# The Daily Collegian

Successor to THE FREE LANCE, est. 1887

Published Tuesday through Saturday mornings inclusive during the College year by the staff of The Daily Collegian of The Pennsylvania State College.

Entered as second-class matter July 5, 1934, at the State College, Pa., Post Office under the act of March 3, 1879.

Collegian editorials represent the viewpoint of the writers, not necessarily the policy of the newspaper. Unsigned editorials are by the editor.

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## World News Is Everyone's Business

The United States is now facing one of the most crucial moments in its history. Red aggression is increasing the threat of a third World War; the "police action" in Korea seems likely to go on for years uselessly claiming the lives of young Americans; there is great unrest in Egypt, Iran, and many other countries, and the United States is preparing for a most important Presidential election.

Every citizen should be aware of these things and take an active interest in what's going on in the world around him. Every move made on the international scene may reflect eventually on future American attitudes and actions. No one can afford to be apathetic toward this world situation, least of all, in our opinion, today's college students.

It is for this reason that the Daily Collegian every day devotes one page to news of the state, national, and international scene. Through the services of the Associated Press, probably the largest news-gathering service in the world, the Daily Collegian attempts to bring Penn State students the biggest stories of the day.

About a year and a half ago, a survey conducted by the Collegian staff showed that nine out of ten students did not read any other paper besides the Daily Collegian. These results are even more shocking when one considers that there were still a lot of veterans and older people on campus at that time.

A little less than a year ago Time magazine called the youth of this country "The Silent Generation." Time found that conformity has become the rule, replacing the radicalism of the younger generation of our parent's days. "Professors who used to enjoy baiting students by outrageously praising child labor or damning Shelley now find that they cannot get a rise out of the docile notetakers in their class," Time said.

At another point Time said:

"What of today's youth? Some are smoking marijuana; some are dying in Korea. Some are going to college with their wives; some are making \$400 a week in television. Some are sure they will be blown to bits by the atom bomb. Some pray. Some are raising the highest towers and running the fastest machines in the world. Some wear blue jeans; some wear Dior gowns. Some want to vote the straight Republican ticket. Some want to fly to the moon."

What reasons did Time give for its evaluation of today's youth? There weren't too many, but one we think was particularly good. Said Time: "Many students and teachers blame the generation's lack of conviction on fear—the fear of being tagged "subversive." Today's generation, through fear, passivity, or conviction, is ready to conform."

It is going to take a great deal of action on the part of students all over the country to redeem ourselves from the tag of "The Silent Generation." And we don't mean action such as last Spring's panty raids. We wonder if most students realize how much those raids did to lower the standing of college students throughout the country.

As a student newspaper, we feel obligated to bring to the students at Penn State as much news as possible of the "outside world." We shall print editorials on this news, not because we believe ourselves experts in the matters, but because we hope that our editorials will at least stimulate student thinking on national and international affairs. We don't expect all students to agree with our views. We hope they don't, and we hope they let us know they don't. At least we will have done a little toward stirring up some interest.

## Pledging Decision Is Important Move

Penn State's fraternities are right now looking over the field of prospects for the men they feel best suited to fraternity life—the men who, in their opinion, will do the most good for the fraternity system here at State.

The rushing period ends Saturday, and according to the pledging regulations of the Interfraternity Council, no rushee may formally be pledged until that time. It is a known fact, however, that many men will have formally committed themselves before that time. It is to the rushees that this editorial is directed.

The week-long rushing period has been set aside for a dual purpose. One is to give the student a chance to visit every house in which he is interested so he can get acquainted with the brothers, pledges, (general set-up of the house.) These factors should be carefully weighed before the student decides which fraternity he wishes to pledge. The other purpose is to give the members of a house ample opportunity to meet and study future members.

In violating the pledging regulations, both the pledge and the house are hurting only themselves. The student is not giving himself a fair chance to really investigate the fraternity he chooses as to financial problems, social activities, pledge program, the type of men his prospective brothers are, and above all, what that fraternity does to help the student's scholastic average. Instead, the rushee may be basing his decision on which fraternity gives the biggest parties, which fraternity is best thought of on campus, which fraternity is the "richest." The man who does this, may find himself in for a rude awakening later on.

On the other hand, the fraternity is cheating itself of the opportunity to meet all the men interested in joining its house.

It is difficult to ascertain all these things in the short space of one week. For this reason it is wise to take the entire week to make your decision. You've still got a few days left. Don't be rushed off your feet.

## One Snarl Avoided: Can Another Be?

The new students who arrived on campus Sunday may have thought that things were rather confusing, but to those of us who have been here for a couple of years things seemed to be running pretty smoothly. So smoothly, in fact, that when a Daily Collegian photographer went out to get some pictures of the lines of students and the traffic jams on Sunday afternoon, he was unable to find any.

The new system, utilizing signs, traffic directors, parking stickers, and all the rest of the paraphernalia showed its many good points as the new students and their parents were directed calmly and without delay to their destinations on campus. A great deal of credit is due the State and Borough Police, the local Junior Chamber of Commerce, the campus patrol, and Alpha Phi Omega, national service fraternity, for their fine cooperation in the program.

There were undoubtedly some disgruntled persons on campus Sunday. We know of a few cases where misinformation was given out, but certainly one must expect this with a program of this scope.

We hope some provision has been made for a program of this type to continue through registration. The procedure, which is confusing enough for upperclassmen, will certainly give most fresh some uncomfortable moments. With a new registration system in effect, things will undoubtedly seem more complex than ever before.

One thing to be remembered by both fresh and upperclassmen is the necessity of carefully checking the trial schedules against the scheduling booklet. One simple mistake there can be cause of hours delay.

Another tip we might suggest is that if a student must schedule a certain course, he might remember that sections meeting at 8 a.m. are usually the last sections filled. It would be wise to take factors like this into consideration when planning a trial schedule.

We might also point out that the registrar's office has stated that the alphabetical schedule will be followed more closely this year than ever before, and those students who miss their group will have to wait until the last day to register.

The centralized system of registration has worked successfully in many schools larger than Penn State. There is no reason why such a system shouldn't work here. But we can't expect miracles right away.

## Little Man on Campus By Bibler



"And as a member of our fraternity, you'll enjoy our friendly rivalry with the fraternity next door."

## Talk About Freshman Gripes



By JIM GROMILLER

It's Orientation Week again, and some 3200 new students are learning the ropes of college life.

It's the 98th year for Penn State, and freshmen have had the same difficulty in getting acclimated since the very beginning—except that with the College's increasing size there are now more names to learn, more buildings to locate, more officials to meet.

Next week when customs begin, freshmen will find themselves being asked to locate the sheep barns, the Old Willow, and sing the songs that are Penn State.

As have all freshmen in the past they will curse, along with the above, registration, long lines, dormitory food, 9:15 permissions, dorm hostesses, parking restrictions, and hat men and women.

They'll also undoubtedly have unkind words for college telephone operators and for the coeds at the other end of the line when the three and one-half ratio brings the "I'm sorry, but I have plans" reply.

Then after the first three or four weeks will come the first of the never ending round of blue books.

The frosh also will protest being routed from their dormitory rooms for pep rallies—feigning serious study. They'll protest their end zone seating at football games.

But by the time the last leaves fall and the final football whistle empties Beaver Field for the last time until another year, Penn State's frosh and transfers will have learned most if not all of Penn State's do's and don'ts.

They'll have realized that every registration has its forms and lines, and that the coeds with similar qualifications are according to the well known ratio of one for every three-and-one-half men; that the phone jams are caused by a shortage of circuits and that the operators can do nothing to alleviate either problem.

They'll have found that hat men are not storm troopers but rather student leaders, and they'll have concluded that in a college

of upwards of 10,000 students there must be some red tape—red tape which can be cut if you know where to find the scissors, and they'll be getting familiar with just where they can be found.

But most of all Penn State's new students will have learned to cherish and uphold the traditions which are Penn State.

## Six Seniors To Counsel As Experiment

William Griffith, Rocco, Narcisi, Wayne Edelman, Frank Hartman, Frank Schrey, and Paul Crofford have been selected as assistant dormitory counselors for this year, according to Frank J. Simes, director of resident counseling.

The first three will be counselors in McKee Hall, and the other three will be assigned to Nittany Dorms 29, 31, and 32. Their selection results from a decision to use seniors as counselors on an experimental basis.

If the experiment is successful this year, additional senior students may be used as resident advisers next year, Simes said.

Each group of three will be under the guidance of a graduate resident adviser. The assistant advisers will be responsible for interpreting the general College program to the students, advising them in their problems, and furthering student government and social activities in their units. In the past, all dormitory counselors have been graduate students.

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