

The Daily Collegian

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Customs Program Should Be Kept

This year's freshman customs program was termed a success by James Schulte, Tribunal chairman and co-chairman of the Freshman Customs Board. We agree that it was a partial success, but like Schulte believe that they could have been much more successful.

Upperclassmen are chiefly responsible for customs only being partially successful. They are the ones who neglect enforcing customs. They are the ones who tell the frosh that they can get away with not wearing their customs. They are the ones who tell the frosh that throwing fruit at the hatmen at the football games and tearing down the goal posts are Penn State "traditions."

Most frosh do not mind customs until they find that the majority of upperclassmen and women don't bother to enforce them. It is because of this that the frosh grow to dislike hatmen and women—because they are the chief guardians of the customs program. It is at this point that customs become a nuisance.

When things reach this stage, you have mob demonstrations such as last Thursday's.

Is there an answer to the problem? The obvious one, and the one voiced quite often, is to eliminate customs altogether. However, we are not yet ready to admit that a workable customs program is an impossibility.

It is interesting to note the results of a five-man committee set up last spring by the freshman class to study the customs problem. Out of the group, composed entirely of freshmen, there came no suggestions to abolish customs. The idea of customs was left intact by the group. This alone seems to indicate a more or less favorable attitude toward customs among the frosh.

What this freshman group did suggest, and we concur with its views, is that a definite date be set for the end of customs. We suggest either a two-week, strictly enforced customs period, or a three-week period with some event scheduled for the second Saturday to give the frosh an opportunity to cancel the third week of customs.

We feel that if upperclassmen knew just how long customs were going to last, they might be more willing to cooperate with their enforcement. A definite date for custom's end would also, we believe, greatly reduce the possibility of freshman demonstrations in the future.

We feel, however, that if the frosh conduct and attitude warrants an early end to customs, the way should be left clear to call them off earlier than the date originally set. This provision would be an incentive for the frosh to be on their best behavior.

The excellent frosh spirit and cooperation at Saturday's game prompted the board to call off customs. If, in the future, the freshman class could display its best conduct early, the College would no longer have to worry about losing goal posts, etc.

Now that customs are over, board members can survey the period and pick out its weak points. But when they hit the problem of upper-class apathy, they'll probably be stumped. People have been trying for years to overcome it, but so far have had little success. If one of them should come up with a solution, Penn State will be very grateful.

Drive Suggested For New Lion Suit

The Nittany Lion is dying a slow death, as a number of students and faculty has been quick to point out. They do not refer to the death of the Lion as a symbol of Penn State, but to the death of the Lion's suit which relives the tradition of the College mascot at each football game.

Last year it was suggested that a new suit

was needed, but neither cabinet nor the Athletic Association was able to find the necessary funds. The present suit was purchased two years ago for about \$400.

Hope that a fund raising campaign might be started to purchase a new outfit for the Lion was touched off by Loren Tukey, assistant professor of pomology, with a \$1 contribution toward a new suit and a plea for a fund raising campaign.

On top of this came a similar request for a drive from a group of freshman women in Thompson Hall.

We understand that it would take about three months to have a new Lion suit made. That means that there is no hope of obtaining a new coat for the Penn State mascot before this football season ends.

But if a new coat is to be available by next fall, plans should be set in motion at once.

George Donovan, director of associated student activities, has indicated that the Student Union would be willing to act as a collecting agency for contributions. The week preceding Alumni Homecoming has been suggested as the most advantageous time to conduct the campaign.

Let's hope the campaign does go forward and that it gets the shot in the arm needed to bring the Nittany Lion back to health before next fall.

—Jim Gromiller

Campus Radio Tests Bring Station Near

Technical problems involved in successful operation of a restricted radiation system of broadcasting through campus dormitories have apparently been solved.

Tests throughout the West Dorms last Saturday and again Monday night were termed very successful by a spokesman for the Radio Guild, which has been leading the fight for a campus radio station.

Past class gifts have established a fund of \$10,000 toward a campus station, and last spring the gratis presentation to the College of a 1000 watt FM transmitter by the Gable Broadcasting Co. of Altoona brought the realization of a campus station into the foreseeable future.

Then students testing the special equipment which had been designed to send the radio signal over dormitory power lines ran into new technical difficulties.

With the solving of these troubles, and the successful tests as proof, the Guild may now be able to persuade the administration to give the green light to the station construction and permit the letting of contracts on the slave transmitters which must be specially designed for the unusual system contemplated.

The plan calls for broadcast over the 1000 watt FM transmitter with the "slave" transmitters converting the FM signal to amplitude modulation so that it can be picked up on normal AM radios.

The AM signal would then be superimposed on the power lines of the campus dormitories. Fraternities and students living downtown would be able to pick up the FM signal on FM radios or could hear the programs over speakers linked with the campus by telephone circuits.

It is generally realized that a campus radio station is a long standing need of the College.

And it is good news to hear that the technical problems incident to the setting up of the station are for the most part solved.

—Jim Gromiller

Gazette . . .

Wednesday, October 1

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

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERS (mixer), 110 Electrical Engineering, 7 p.m.

ANDROCLES, Chi Phi, 7 p.m.

INTERSCHOOL COUNCIL BOARD, 204 Old Main, 8:30 p.m.

NEWMAN CLUB lecture-discussion, Professor Case in charge, rectory basement, 7:15 p.m.

PLAYERS' PROPERTIES WORKSHOP, Schwab basement, 6:30 p.m.

RIDING CLUB, 317 Willard, 7 p.m.

THETA SIGMA PHI, Grange playroom, 6:30 p.m.

WRA BOWLING CLUB, White Hall alleys, 7 p.m.

WRA MODERN DANCE CLUB, White Hall dance room, 7 p.m.

COLLEGE HOSPITAL

Donald Bailey, Charles Barto, Gilbert Broome, Harry Ennis, Richard Ferguson, David Gill, Richard Gundrum, Edward Harco, Theodore Keyser, John Kyle, John Leaman, Ona Kay Lee, Andrew Loya, Ann Menges, Kenneth Moses, Milton Nees, Donald Reda, Carlene Samuels, Barbara Tokarsky, Robert Whitner, Audrey Zellers.

COLLEGE PLACEMENT

Pittsburgh Plate Glass Co. will interview January B.S. candidates in C.E., E.E., I.E., M.E., Chem. Eng., Arch. Eng. and Chem. and Ceramics Tuesday, Oct. 14. Federal Telecommunications Laboratories, Inc. will interview January B.S., '53 M.S. and Ph.D. candidates in M.E., E.E., Chem. Eng., Phys., and Chem. who are interested in communications or development work in radio and electronics Thursday, Oct. 9. Mallinckrodt Chemical Works will interview January B.S. and '53 M.S. and Ph.D. candidates in Chem. and Chem. Eng. Monday, Oct. 13.

Little Man on Campus

By Bibler



"Remember how they followed us when th' style was th' reverse of tight sweaters and loose skirts?"

It's A Loux-Lu

By BETTIE LOUX



"Autumn in New York . . . it brings the thrill of first-nighting . . ." the tune goes, and a walk along the Mall any night around 9:30 gives us much the same feeling. The lights are blazing in Schwab Auditorium's Green Room where the local mask and wig club is going through the antics of how important it is to have the name of Ernest . . . and they're putting a nickel in the kitty every time they slip from their British accents . . . proceeds go to a party.

Harassed directors are working out skits for "Don't Stop Now," the original fall revue, on the upper floors of Old Main . . . drifting from the windows of Carnegie Hall are the spirited Thespian show songs, and rehearsals for the farce on a Pullman, "Twentieth Century," are just getting underway in the Little Theater.

The opening of the Penn State theater season is close at hand—Oct. 10 to be exact.

In spite of criticisms of the state of American theater in general and the past New York season, it looks like some excellent entertainment is in store this year for both College theater devotees and those out for an evening of pure enjoyment.

If our prediction proves true, Players' and Thespians' success may be partly due to the added experience which quite a few put under their belts this summer in the "straw hat circuit."

While some packed their bags for the shore and others took their talents all over the state, one group of ambitious actors decided to starve for art's sake and stayed in State College to organize the State College Arena Theater at Center Stage.

Existing on cereal and macaroni and cheese for the first few weeks, the group treated Main Session students to "Papa Is All," "Angel Street," "You Touched Me!" "See How They Run," and "Come Back, Little Sheba." Just about every one of these was cast, rehearsed, and produced in a week's time. It's still beyond us how a stock company could act in one play at night and rehearse for another the same day without crossing cues and producing a conglomeration of the two.

It wasn't easy going, and we'll never forget the time a first-night full house saw "Come Back, Little Sheba" presented for the first time with the properties and sound effects. Half an hour before the lights went down, with the early arrivals taking it all in, scenery was being put up, sound equipment installed, and the prop girl was searching State College for a celluloid duck and a large bottle of club soda.

A kitchen cabinet was finally procured in that last half hour, and the cast members were told for the first time in what general

locality of the set they would be able to find needed props.

When it was over the group decided it had been a great dress rehearsal, worked throughout the next day, and put on a good show the next night.

This pioneering company, one of the most courageous we've ever known, included Don Colbert, who'll be back at Center Stage next week in "The Importance of Being Earnest;" Jolly Oswalt, seen last year in "Hedda Gabler," Ed Rolf, leading man in "A Connecticut Yankee" last spring; Kathy Scheetz, '52; Sally Johnson and Evy Horwin, and graduate students Richard Andersen, Yvonne Voigt, Bill Coleman, and Moylan Mills.

Penn State went en masse to Reading where Fran Stridinger, Marcia Yoffee, Assistant Professor of Dramatics Kelly Yeaton, Dramatics Instructor "Mike" Kesdekian, and Chuck Schulte and Carl Wagner (the father and the suitor in "The Heiress" last year) worked at the Green Hills Summer Theater.

Both WMAJ announcer Lee Stern and Rolf were at the Al-lenberry Playhouse, and former Players President Betty Lou Morgan, Prim Diefenderfer, and John Price were seen at the Pleasant Mills Playhouse, Hammon-ton, N.J., and the Quarterdeck Theater, Atlantic City.

But with the coming of fall the renovated barns and sprawling tents close their doors and theater comes back to the cities. The College shows are only still in rehearsal, but we've got first-night fever already.

Inkling Candidates Meeting Scheduled

Candidates for the editorial, art, promotion, and circulation staffs of Inkling, campus literary magazine, will meet at 7 p.m. tomorrow in 209 Willard.

Inkling is accepting material for publication in the fall issue. Material, including fiction and poetry, should be addressed to Inkling and left at the Student Union desk in Old Main, John Hoerr, editor, said.

The editorial staff reviews the material submitted and decides what will be used for publication, Hoerr said. Members of the editorial staff also work together on a feature story to be used in the magazine.