

The Daily Collegian

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Fraternity Decision Is Important One

The legal pledging date, at which time men will be able to pledge fraternities, will be announced by Interfraternity Council shortly after the start of next semester, when this semester's grades are made available.

The decision whether or not to pledge a fraternity is one of the most important decisions a man will be asked to make while in college. His life in school and after graduation will be greatly affected by this decision. Too much thought and consideration cannot be given before deciding whether or not to join a certain fraternity.

While in school, this decision will primarily affect the student's scholarship and social life. Later in life, he will be influenced by the friends he has made in college and just how much he has benefited from his education, both from the classroom and his outside life.

Men, especially the freshmen, cannot be impressed too much with the importance of getting a rounded picture of fraternity life. When considering a particular fraternity, a man should think of all aspects of the house. He will find houses with strictly an attitude of scholarship. And he will find those with the "country club" atmosphere. Either kind, if he pledges, will play an important part in shaping his later life.

The attitude that members in the house hold toward pledges should also be considered. Some houses have real pledge-beaters who have the attitude, "Let the pledges do it." This attitude, in any house, will use up much valuable study time or take time from the social life of the pledge.

Before pledging any house, a man should learn provisions made for study hours, general house average in scholarship, house policies on dating, work required from pledges, (hell weeks are no small consideration here), financial requirements, rooming arrangements, fraternity activities, and the general house rating on a national scale.

The biggest benefit offered by fraternity life, so the advocates of the fraternity system say, is that it takes away the impersonal technique of modern education which is now placed on an assembly line basis. This is done by supplying social contacts and fellowship not usually found in college dormitories. Because Penn State's fraternity system is ranked very high nationally, the houses here should be representative or superior to those on other campuses and offer everything those on other campuses can offer.

Rushing is well underway now. Hundreds of men will be invited to houses to get information on life in the house and to give members of the house a chance to meet and know them. Bids will be sent to those that house members think are best suited for their house. Men not rushed or given bids at this time should remember that most fraternities will continue rushing throughout the spring semester.

Those rushed who are considering fraternity life should ask themselves these important questions: "Is fraternity life the kind of life for me, what can I do for this house, and what can this house do for me?" Think it over. Especially freshmen. It's important!

—Chuck Obertance

Wading in Mud!

Students are so much in the habit of cutting across Holmes Field on their way to and from classes in Temporary and White Hall, that they continue to take the short cut, despite the fact that tractors have already begun grading the ground in preparation for the new Student Union Building.

If the habit continues, (and college students aren't prone to change their way of doing things), the contractor may be forced to put up fences; or if "traffic must be maintained," then hire traffic cops, put up signal lights, or perhaps construct a temporary bridge over the project.

As the excavation for the new SU continues, better allow more time on your way to Temporary, and wear boots!

—Jim Gromiller

Women to Suggest Mortar Board Roll

For the first time since the establishment on campus of Mortar Board, senior women's honorary society, junior women will be able to suggest who should belong to that group. A poll, conducted by board members, will obtain a cross-section of opinion on who should be tapped for membership. However, the poll will serve only as a guide and not be binding in final selections.

Because only sixth semester women are eligible for membership, only those women will vote in the poll. A list of scholastically eligible women will be submitted for women to select from five to 25 for society membership. One requirement for membership into the honorary is an All-College average of .3 higher than the All-College average of women. This is the main requirement and the one which has this year kept membership in that group down to eight.

But, perhaps as a result of this poll, the board will install a capacity of members. Certainly there are more senior women with an average high enough who deserve recognition for their attainment in scholarship.

The sad thing at this time is that only eight women from the entire senior class are getting any recognition at all for achievement in school. And this achievement is their scholastic average. Thus, no women who are outstanding in campus activities or who have served the College in some way during their junior year can gain recognition unless they have been able to maintain a high average besides.

The only recognition for women's activities at Penn State is gained through the junior and sophomore hat societies. Women are tapped during their freshman and sophomore years, thus leaving active junior women without a high average out in the cold. These women deserve recognition, and the only feasible way at this time lies in the establishment of a new senior women's hat society.

Although a proposal has been made to Hat Society Council, nothing was done except talking about it and forgetting about it. There is clearly a need for such a society. Here's a chance for the political parties this spring to pick up a red hot issue, one that deserves support.

—C. O.

Audience Enthralled By Forum Speaker

Friday night's Community Forum audiences were treated to what was probably the most entertaining and at the same time most informative talk in the Forum's last two years. Even staunch Democrats had to admit the talk was an excellent one, even though the Truman Administration's foreign policy in the Far East drew plenty of barbed comments from the speaker.

Evidence that the audience was somewhat overwhelmed by the Republican Congressman from Minnesota, Dr. Walter H. Judd, was the noticeable lack of coughing and shuffling of feet which often mar the Forum speeches after about an hour. Still further evidence was the fact that only a handful of the audience left before the question and answer period, a popular feature of the evening. Usually about half the audience takes its leave at the end of the speech.

The effectiveness of the speech was such that several professors were heard to remark that they had never heard Far Eastern policy discussed so lucidly and capably. Dr. Judd certainly fulfilled the promises of the committee in charge of the Community Forum this year.

Unfortunately, all too few students have recognized the value of the Forum's program. The committee, in selecting its speakers for this year, tried to meet all the desires of the students. It provided a light program in Elsa Lancaster's "Private Music Hall," and it chose speakers who were known for their speaking ability.

If next year's program is as good as the present one, students will find few better uses for the \$3 a season ticket costs.

Gazette...

Tuesday, January 13

ACEI, Atherton Lounge, 7 p.m.
COLLEGIAN advertising intermediate and junior boards, 7 p.m., 9 Carnegie.

COLLEGIAN circulation junior and intermediate boards, 7 p.m. Collegian office.

COLLEGIAN editorial candidates, 7 p.m., 2 Carnegie.

ENGINEERING STUDENT COUNCIL, 7 p.m., 107 Main Engineering.

FENCING CLUB, 7 p.m., Water Tower.

FUTURE BUSINESS LEADERS OF AMERICA, 7:30 p.m.

NITTANY BOWMEN, 7 p.m., 202 Engineering B.

OMICRON NU, 7 p.m., Home Economics Living Center.

PRE-VET, 7 p.m., Delta Theta Sigma, 126 E. Fairmount avenue.

PSYCHOLOGY CLUB, 7 p.m., 318 Willard.

SOPHOMORE CLASS meeting, 8 p.m., 121 Sparks.

TRIBUNAL, 7 p.m., 201 Old Main.

WEA BADMINTON CLUB, 6:30 p.m., White Hall gym.

WEA OUTING CLUB, 7 p.m., White Hall game room.

STUDENT EMPLOYMENT

Boy to do janitor's work from noon until three. Seven days a week.

Little Man on Campus

By Bibler



WISE AND OTHERWISE

Student Draft Due to Tighten

By DAVE JONES

It is becoming increasingly evident to college students that, unless there is a drastic improvement in the present manpower situation, the college student draft deferment system will be changed before this school year is out.

The Defense department has issued a call for 53,000 draftees in February, 6000 of which will be from Pennsylvania. About 300,000 men will be drafted from January to June. There has already been a call for 48,000 men this month and 50,000 are expected for March. Selective Service will draft about 470,000 during the 1954 fiscal year and 600,000 the following year. All of next month's draftees will be assigned to the Army.

In many cases, this all means local draft boards will have to dip for the first time into the 19-year-old age bracket for draftees in March. And it also means many local draft boards will have exhausted their supply of 1-A men by August. At this rate, young fathers and college students should not be surprised at a reclassification sometime in May.

The Defense department had not expected to change the present deferment policy until 1954, but Draft Director Lewis B. Hershey had warned it would be necessary. The heaviest post-Korea draft was from January to March, 1951. Those draftees are now finishing their 24-month hitch and must be replaced. About 1 million men are now deferred because of dependency, and 190,000 college students are also deferred. These two groups afford a promising pool of potential 1-A men.

Some observers still believe college students may be saved by the Eisenhower administration. These observers feel the Republicans will oppose tighter student deferments before September, 1954. It is obvious, however, that new administration or not, the manpower pool is shrinking and men must come from somewhere. College students are perhaps the most logical source.

Under the present deferment plan, students may seek deferment by having high class standing or by scoring 70 or better on a college draft deferment test. Students passing the test are not assured a deferment, since deferment itself is up to the local draft boards, but their chances of deferment are considerably higher than those who have flunked or not taken the test.

Some officials have favored increasing the deferment test passing grade to 75 as one means of increasing the manpower pool.

Many students who have flunked or not taken the test

College Offers Short Courses In Ag School

Students may enroll in the dairy farming and the livestock farming short courses to be held Feb. 4 to March 4, A. L. Beam, director of short courses, has announced.

The dairy farming short course is intended to train dairy herdsman, dairy herd improvement association supervisors, and will include other agricultural activities requiring knowledge of dairy farming. Five purebred herds will be used for practical study. Pasture and grassland management are among subjects included in a four-week course.

Instruction in breeding, feeding, selection, and management of livestock with special emphasis on practical applications will be included in the livestock farming short course. One of the subjects included is practice in judging market and breeding hogs, sheep, beef cattle, and work horses.

The seventh annual pest control short course will be held March 3, 4, and 5. Dr. Hubert Frings and D. E. H. Frear, joint chairmen, have announced.

Dr. Hamilton Laudani, U.S. Department of Agriculture laboratory, Savannah, Ga., will discuss the biology and control of ants.

Further information about the short courses may be obtained from any county agricultural agent's office or from the director's office at the College.

Block and Bridle Club

Block and Bridle Club will meet at 7 tonight in 206 Agriculture. C. V. Hess, associate professor of agricultural economics, will speak.

are now being inducted, and a few draft boards are even calling students who have passed the test. This is an indication the student deferment system is in for a not-too-far-off overhaul.