

# The Daily Collegian

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## STAFF THIS ISSUE

Editorial staff: Night editor, Bill Jost; Copy editors, Dick Rau, Lorraine Gladus; assistants, Bill Pete, Betty Koster, Len Goodman, Roger Beidler.

Ad staff: Tom Garrett, Steve Elabarger.

## Platforms Indicate Party Improvement

The party platforms released Wednesday by the All-College elections committee show that campus politicians have come a long way in the last few years toward devising platforms which are not only worthwhile, but workable through student government.

Two points in the platforms are based on generally similar ideas — the need for a revision in the present Penn State student judicial system and a change in the present method of choosing candidates and platform planks for the parties themselves. The similarity in these two items indicates that both campus parties have seen the need for the suggested changes.

The first similarity lies in point six of the State Party platform and in point five of the Lion Party pledges. Basically, the parties want to establish an All-College Supreme Court which would handle appeals from the lower courts which now exist, in addition to cases of more severe nature which would not be handled by the lower courts. Such a plan should be a step forward in making sure of fair treatment to all students.

The other point of similarity in the planks lies in point six of the Lion Party list and point five of the State Party planks. The parties here propose a revamping of the present party setup along the lines of the national conventions with the aim of promoting greater interest and participation in student government on the part of students.

Other points of the Lion Party platform call for attempts to establish a student discount system with the downtown merchants, an absentee voting arrangement, a revision in the West Dorm admittance code to allow more upperclassmen to reside in that area, and a system of first aid stations in the living areas.

The State Party, in its platform, calls for a program to better prepare students for employment interviews, the establishment of a centralized bluebook file, increased indoor recreational facilities in the Nittany-Pollock area, revival of the plan for a Central Promotion Agency, and the expansion of the present Cabinet Projects Council.

The planks in both platforms are directed "For a Better Penn State." The platforms also point up the advisability of splitting tickets when the actual voting comes up in two weeks.

## Football Cheering Revision Is Needed

Although the familiar baseball cry of "play ball" has barely left the umpire's mouth, football drills have already begun for many of the College's athletes. With the football season in the not too distant future, this seems an excellent time to attempt a cure for a problem which is quite evident to all—the lack of spirit shown in combined cheering at home games.

Freshmen arriving on campus are overwhelmed by the color and excitement of the first football games. Within a few weeks, their spirited cheering vanishes, and they become as unemotional as their fellow upperclassmen.

Why is there so little response to combined cheering at football and basketball games? One of the reasons is obvious, yet no one appears to make any effort to improve the situation. Two short cheers certainly provide no release of enthusiasm if they are repeated constantly. Those who witnessed the American University basketball game probably poked fun at their "high schoolish" cheerleaders, but at least they were successful in lending their team encouragement on a foreign floor.

Our cheerleaders work hard to spark school spirit, and it seems a shame that they have such meager cheers with which to work. They do, however, have a number which are rarely utilized because they receive little or no student response. Are we at Penn State capable only of spelling out "Nittany" and "State?"

There are several possible remedies. If fresh-

men were more thoroughly indoctrinated during customs with what we now have and don't use, there might be more enthusiastic cheering. On the other hand, a cheer writing contest sponsored by one of the College's many service organizations would in all probability stimulate student interest and produce tangible results.

Penn State students have so many reasons to be proud of their school and its athletic program. It just seems a shame that we don't reveal it to the outside world.

—Betty Koster

## New Calendar Plan Meets All Objections

The new calendar plan passed yesterday by the College Senate is a compromise plan which should be pleasing to all concerned.

The original plan, which called for a one-day Thanksgiving vacation and elimination of the between semester vacation, drew protest from both students and the faculty. Students complained about both cuts, while the faculty and some units of the administration complained that the elimination of the between semester vacation would disrupt grading of final exams as well as the registration procedure.

The newly passed compromise plan meets these two major objections, but in doing so, somewhat lengthens the academic year. Undoubtedly there will be some dissatisfaction because of this, but the majority of those concerned will be substantially pleased.

The new plan calls for a four-day Thanksgiving vacation, plus nine days between the end of the fall semester examinations and the beginning of spring semester classes. The days of classes lost during the Thanksgiving holiday will be made up on the Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday morning at the end of the fall semester.

The calendar idea now gives the College a system by which the calendar for any given year can be determined. This is of particular benefit to the Athletic Association and those responsible for scheduling athletic events. It will also prove valuable for other College groups who must, because of the nature of their work, make plans several years in advance.

## Safety Valve—

Considering the number of letters the Daily Collegian has been receiving in answer to matter appearing on the editorial page, it should be pointed out that letters will not be run unless they are signed by the writer. In the event that the writer should desire to have his name withheld, he should make that request.

No letters will be printed unless they are signed upon receipt by the Daily Collegian.

Due to mechanical difficulties, the Daily Collegian cannot run all letters it receives. It reserves the right to determine which letters are fit to print as regards content as well as space available on the editorial page.

Letters are welcomed at all times and every effort will be made to have the Collegian serve as a medium through which a diversified student opinion can be expressed.

—Mimi Ungar

## Famous 500' Fame

TO THE EDITOR: I'd like to take this opportunity to comment a bit further on a recent article concerning Penn State's "Famous 500."

The author commented on the fact that a list of the remaining members of that group, now senior class of '53, looks like a copy of "Who's in the News."

I'd like to go a step further in saying that in the selection list of "Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges," the ten women chosen for this supposed highest senior honor were each an original member of the "Famous 500" as freshmen. They are: Yvonne Carter, Janet Herd, Marlene Heyman, Jo Hutchon, Margaret Lamaster, Joan Lee, Mabel Marple, Terese Moslak, Vivian Peterson, and Marian Whitely.

I, as one of this original group of "500," certainly deem this class achievement an honor of which to be proud.

—Name withheld

Ed. note—The writer is referring to a feature article which appeared in the Daily Collegian on March 28. The article dealt with the first 500 women who appeared on the Penn State campus in 1949, following the post-World War II tradition of farming all women out to centers.

## Gazette...

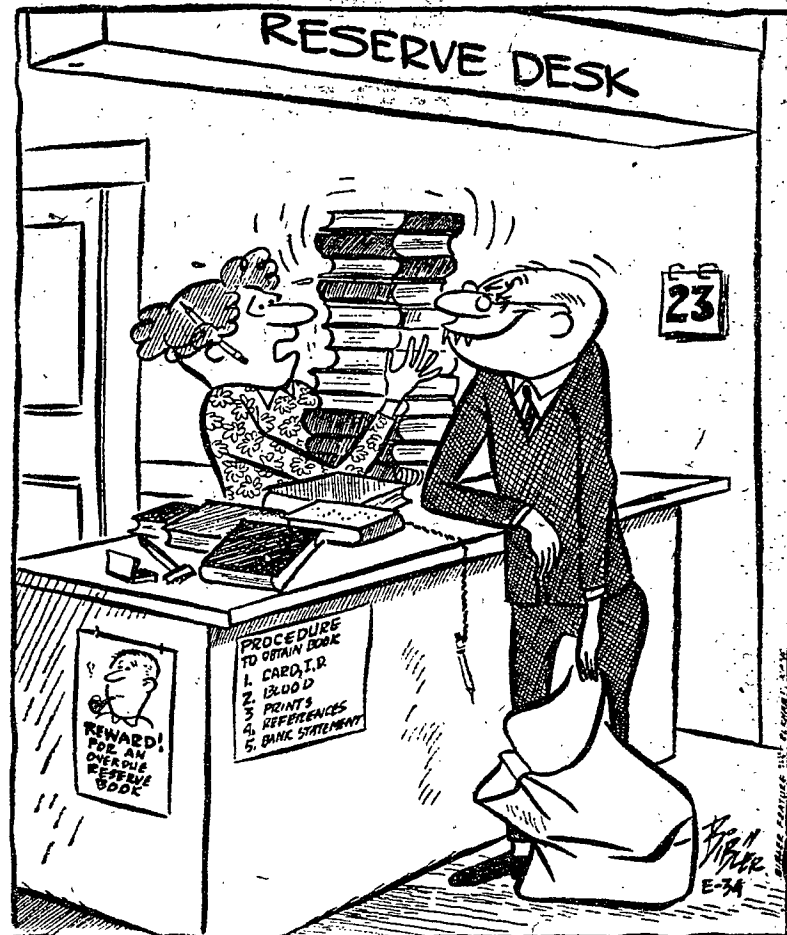
### COLLEGE HOSPITAL

Robert B. Berger, Nancy Bigley, Sue Bryan, Charles Dickson, Hohn Epler, Paul Gale, Wayne Gardner, Charles Hishta, Nancy Knouse, Paul Lizza, Peggy McClain, George Paler, Richard Sander, Richard Stoneback, John Ward and Gertrude Winzenburger.

### STUDENT EMPLOYMENT

Camp Ma-Ho-Be, New York, will interview men and women April 10.  
Camp Delwood, Pa., will interview men and women April 13.  
Camp Conrad Weiser, Pa., will interview men April 16 and 17.  
Camp Starlight, Pa., will interview men and women April 17.  
Camp Nokomis, New York, will interview men and women April 23.  
Married couple without children for summer job near State College.  
Men wanted for general outdoor work, garden and lawn care, etc.  
Asbury Arlington Hotel, New Jersey, will interview women April 24.

## Little Man On Campus By Bibler



"But, Professor Snarf, aren't you checking out books your class will need to study before bluebooks?"

## The Political Scene

By MARSHALL O. DONLEY

(This is the second in a series of five analytical articles dealing with student political organizations at the College and the current electoral race. The series is intended as an impartial discussion of a topic which touches on the lives of every man and woman at Penn State.)

### 2. Lion and State Party Planks

Yesterday the platforms of the two political parties were released for the students to see. The platforms, as in every year, were preceded by glowing phrases which described the students as Penn State Student Voters and promised faithful performance of the planks.

But this is the same as last year and every year. What differs are the planks themselves, and this year the planks are realistic and practical—a not-too-frequent condition. In past years party planks have promised a lot of interesting but impractical things—in 1950 one plank urged the construction of a huge S on a nearby mountain (apparently to identify the College to passing airplanes.)

In addition to being down-to-earth, the platforms this year are multi-planked: State Party offers seven planks, Lion Party names six. In past years the number of planks has averaged nearer to four or five, rather than higher. Of the thirteen planks offered voters, this spring, two are present in both parties' platform.

This is not unusual, for party planks are worked out by platform committees of the parties and the committees are made up of men and women who examine present problems and cur-

rent issues to produce the planks. Often as many as 25 planks are considered before they are trimmed down to five or so. The duplication of planks does not result from cooperation between parties, but from this condition: both parties' workers are considering the same problems; it is not unlikely, therefore, that they come up with the same ideas.

Last spring (State had four planks, Lion five) there was exact

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## Loyalty Investigations Hit

Academic freedom is endangered and teachers' morale weakened as a result of "unfair" methods used in Congressional investigations, educators at the National Catholic Educational Association convention said recently.

Eight thousand educators from all parts of the United States representing Catholic schools and universities are attending the meeting being held in Atlantic City this week.

The procedures of investigations are harming many innocent teachers and professors, the educators said. They recommended that a code of procedure be established for investigations to protect these people. They did not deny the right of Congress to investigate education.

President of St. Louis University, the Very Rev. Paul C. Reinert, told educators the investigations might gradually weaken the traditional freedoms of institutions of learning. Reinert also asserted that the "vast majority" of teachers is loyal.

Some of the educators who were interviewed expressed agreement with the statement of the American Association of Universities which declared that being a Communist disqualified a person as a teacher, that universities, not politicians, should handle disloyal persons in the schools, and that invoking the Fifth Amendment was an indication of guilt in investigations.

The AAU statement was blasted as "the most serious blow that education has received" by some educators at Columbia University. Penn State did not sign the AAU statement and is not a member of the AAU.

Two current investigations underway by Congress have met considerable difficulty with "uncooperative" witnesses. The House Un-American Activities committee, investigating in Southern California, ended a series of hearings Wednesday. One of the last witnesses refused to answer questions and called the investigations "disgusting."