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The Daily Collegian

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Talk Location Did Not Consider Students

A final word must be said about the apparent failure to have Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt's address transferred to Recreation Hall. Mrs. Roosevelt will speak at 8 tonight in Schwab Auditorium.

A move to Rec Hall was proposed Friday, and backed both financially and otherwise by the Association of Independent Men, Interfraternity Council, Leonides and Panhellenic Council. However, the move was voted down by the faculty committee in charge of the affair.

Reasons for the refusal included difficulties in getting workmen to set up and remove chairs on the floor of Rec Hall, and the interruption of Physical Education classes, which meant that the workmen could not begin moving chairs until 5 p.m. Additional costs involved the poorer acoustics of Rec Hall and the difficulty in estimating the expected crowd were also problems.

It was also mentioned that the good will of the administration should not be jeopardized by asking for "too much" in the way of favors.

However, what became of the original intent of the transfer viz., that it would permit many more students to see and hear one of the most

outstanding contemporary women? And how much faith was placed in our student body, or even in the drawing-power of Mrs. Roosevelt, to allow the more petty considerations to outweigh the original purpose?

Sufficient funds were raised by student groups to finance the transfer. The quick action of these groups reflected student interest in the speaker. No problem presented was insurmountable, and the stature of the speaker and the unorthodox manner in which she was contracted for the talk—it was known for certain only ten to 14 days ago that she would be able to come—cannot justify a conservative handling of the situation.

Does the bigness of a college, which in this case seems to have frustrated the transfer of the event from one building to another, hamper the progressive functioning of that university? Or is it petty considerations which hamper the progress, whether the university be large or small?

Of course the people who were to decide upon the transfer had reserved seats, or is that being bitter?

—Leonard Goodman

Customs Drag, and Drag, and Drag

The freshman customs program has been dragging for a week and a day. Upperclassmen are lax in customs enforcement, and frosh are indifferent when called upon to respond.

The first week of customs was successful, according to the Freshman Joint Customs and Regulations Board. Spirit was high among both frosh and upperclassmen. Enforcement was fairly strong, and freshmen were impressed with the penalty of customs violations.

Slackening of enthusiasm for the program was obvious the second week. The joint customs day last Tuesday added variation, but even that lacked the vigor of the preceding week. Frosh walked about campus without their dinks, sometimes without name cards, and in several cases had not yet filled out their Student Handbooks. Freshman women openly conversed with men students, and many ignored customs regulations on dating.

And upperclassmen watched it all with equal unconcern. After the first week of customs, frosh themselves commented they were seldom asked to curtsy or button, and were even less often asked for handbooks or songs and cheers.

With at least another week of so-called customs enforcement in view, it is obvious the program will reach its nadir before it is officially ended.

Such an attitude toward customs is a detriment to not only freshman customs, but to other campus programs as well. When freshmen recognize laxity in one of their first encounters with campus authority, they can quite naturally assume that such is the procedure for other rules of the College.

Freshman customs, when strictly enforced,

may help frosh adjust informally to campus authority. They promote speaking acquaintances among new students, and although men-women conversations are limited to "hello," name cards are advantageous for future reference.

However, lax enforcement defeats the benefits of and purpose of the program. Frosh grow skeptical of campus policies, wonder at the efficiency of hat societies (which are forced to "take upon themselves the major part of customs enforcement) and tend to look upon customs as a huge farce.

As such, customs are pointless and a waste of time for both frosh and enforcers. In entirety, hours are wasted quizzing a few frosh, while hundreds of other frosh walk ignored along campus. The customs board wastes approximately one evening a week planning policies which are ridiculed, discussing customs promotions which are ineffective. And frosh face the unjust condition of being penalized for violations which countless others are constantly committing unreminded.

If customs ended after one week, while spirit is still high and enforcement strong, the entire program would have comparatively good effect.

If customs were changed to allow conversation between men and women students, thus alleviating inevitable dating violations, true customs effects would no longer be a parody of intended effects.

Actual customs change is under the authority of the customs board. It is the responsibility of all students to refer opinions and suggestions to the board.

—Peggy McClain

I. An Explanation About the NSA

(This is the first of three articles dealing with the National Students' Association and Penn State.)

From time to time there is, on campus, a controversy about whether or not Penn State should retain membership in the National Students' Association. This problem came up again last week when All-College Cabinet voted "yes." Yet those who understand NSA can be counted on the fingers of one hand.

By definition, the National Students' Association is a confederation of student governments. In the past it has been considered everything from a private club to a non-working association to which a school pays dues, deriving few benefits. Not so. And the confusion about NSA lies not in the organization itself but in the way its programs have been carried out on this campus. In other words, our membership has never been more than half-hearted.

In reality, benefits from membership in NSA can be many. It provides a student voice, not only to faculty and administrations of member schools, but to state, national and international legislatures. It also provides a medium of exchange of ideas—all kinds of ideas—on campus, national and international levels.

The practical advantage of NSA come from the integrated work areas of the organization. On the student level, there are extensive studies on faculty evaluation, economic welfare, orientation and culture. Student government projects include leadership training, judicial, financial-budgetary and election systems, to name a few. Educational programs are planned to aid the student in his curriculum. Many of these programs can be made workable, practical and beneficial at Penn State.

More advantages. NSA, more than any other organization now on campus, can bring national and international issues to the Penn State level. Until now, this campus has been designated as sort of an isolated existence. Few people know much about what's going on in the world. This is a wrong that can be corrected by the application of program suggestions from special work areas. National issues can be practical programs, not just theory; workable projects, not just talk.

Has NSA ever been beneficial to Penn State? The answer is "yes" despite half-hearted participation. The idea for a Campus Chest came from NSA. So did Cabinet Projects Council, a body which facilitates the administration of All-College Cabinet programs. Faculty evaluation was an NSA idea. And there are many more.

Potential is the keyword in the NSA argument. We have good student government here, we tell ourselves. But certainly receiving ideas from schools more advanced in our weak points can lead to a much better one. There is much potential that may be realized through NSA participation if it is wholehearted participation. And educating the student about that potential is the first step.

—Baylee Friedman

Gazette . . .

Today

- ACEI, 7 p.m., S. E. Atherton Lounge.
- ALPHA EPSILON DELTA business meeting, 7:30 p.m., 103 Willard.
- COLLEGIAN CIRCULATION STAFF meeting, 6:30 p.m., Business Room.
- FROTH ADVERTISING STAFF and candidates meeting, 7 p.m., Froth office.
- IRRA meeting, 7 p.m., 107 Willard.
- LIEBIG CHEMICAL SOCIETY, 7:30 p.m., Hillel Foundation Lounge, 224 S. Miles St.
- RADIO CONTINUITY, 7 p.m., 304 Sparks.
- THESPIANS PROGRAM COMMITTEE, 7 p.m., 101 Willard.
- WRA MODERN DANCE CLUB, 7 p.m., White Hall.

STUDENT EMPLOYMENT

Experienced barber.
Experienced clothes presser.
Waiters for girls dorms—must live off campus.

COLLEGE PLACEMENT SERVICE

The companies listed below will conduct interviews on campus. Schedule interviews now in 112 Old Main.
ARMA CORP. will interview January graduates at all levels in ME, EE and Physics on Oct. 15.
THE BOARD OF NATIONAL MISSIONS OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH will interview all students interested in church vocations on Oct. 15.

Little Man on Campus

By Bibler



Glancing Around

At Penn and Cops

By DICK RAU

Being in possession of the necessary enzymes, hormones, time and lucre, I went to Philadelphia Saturday. This is the time of year when ordinarily peaceful students think it a great idea to push other ordinarily peaceful students' faces into the ground for the satisfaction of seeing an inflated ellipsoid carried as close as possible to a wooden structure, suitable for neither housing nor hanging out laundry.

This whole operation is watched with varying degrees of enthusiasm by other ordinarily peaceful people who wish to keep their faces clean.

It was in keeping with this seasonal urge for violence that I followed the stream of the children of the lion over the seven mountains into civilization to meet with a particularly inoffensive lot—the Quakers.

These people whose taste in colors leans toward blue and red (pardon the expression, senator) reside in a village named for the affection found there toward one's fellow man. This affection is reflected in the headlines of one of yesterday's village papers. For example: "Police Find Auto Loot in Home, Seize Couple," "Girl Knives Teacher, Pupil in Class," "Fixer Labels 137 Police as Numbers Grifters," and "Thieves Get \$500 in Auto Agency."

I do not know whether or not the village's upholders of public rights and morals have been picking up any extra cigarette money. But I did have occasion to listen and speak with these public stalwarts on three occasions.

The first opportunity arose when I drew close to the arena constructed to accommodate that vast number of citizens who prefer clean faces. I was looking for a place to put down my automobile—a normally simple operation anywhere except in State College and Philadelphia.

I asked a policeman, "Is there any place around here where I can park?"

He in turn, turned to another and said, "Hey Joe, this guy wants a place to park."

Joe immediately went into hysterics born of merriment. I was not amused.

Twenty minutes and two miles later, I spied an unhappy looking individual standing on a corner with a sign informing the automotive world where it could be relieved of its beasts of burden. I stopped and inquired where this oasis might be. His unhappiness vanished. He told me. My unhappiness vanished. I found the place. I learned the price. My unhappiness returned. Let there be no more snide remarks about the way merchants in State College make money. Their professional brethren in the City of Brotherly Love couldn't make money faster if they had their own press.

Having left my rusty, trusty

bucket of bolts. I proceeded on foot to the arena. On the way, I heard a peculiar whistle accompanied with shouts of authority. My curiosity got the better of me so I turned around. In a voice similar to that of a wounded bull, I and half of Philadelphia were informed that I was the object of the policeman's demonstration.

Pointing to a couple cars parked along the street, he roared, "Do you want a ticket?"

"No."

"Do you see those cars up there?"

"Yes."

"They're going to get a ticket if they're left there!"

"So?"

"One of them is yours, isn't it?"

"No."

"Oh."

Seeing my position was secure for the first time in this encounter, I followed the natural impulse of one who is on top and pushed the matter carefully explaining in some detail where I was parked while the cop apologetically and hurriedly brushed the matter off.

We finally got to the game in the middle of the second quarter. We hadn't missed much—just a bunch of guys running back and forth. The Monday morning quarterback sitting in back of us on Saturday afternoon kept us well informed on the progress and history of the game. When a pass was sent about six feet over the head of the intended receiver, he made the solemn comment, "Too high." Somehow I had the idea the players might have also come to the same conclusion, not to mention 50,000 others in the area.

There were two others in the stands who preferred speculating on the future rather than on past plays. When Penn tried for the extra point after its second touchdown, the conversation ran something like this:

"Here we go. This will make it 14."

"Nah. He'll miss."

"He'll make it."

"Wanna bet?"

"He'll make it."

"Wanna bet a buck?"

"He'll make it."

"The kick was made and the point missed."

"Wa-did-I-tell-ya!"

On leaving the stands, I again saw a small portion of the Philadelphia

(Continued on page five)