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# The Daily Collegian

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## Military Ball Decision Needs a Review

The decisions that made Military Ball weekend into a "big" weekend were at first received with accolades. But in light of more recent developments, those actions could now stand a quick review.

The Senate committee on student affairs approved the dance for special hours, and Women's Student Government Association and Interfraternity Council followed with special considerations. This created Penn State's fourth big weekend.

But the Mil Ball is restricted in its attendance, not only in the number of tickets sold, but in who may purchase tickets. And this limitation makes some wonder if such a dance should be classed as a big weekend.

Restriction in the number of tickets sold may be a good idea, since it makes the dance danceable. But restriction of sales to advanced and basic ROTC students is a different matter. Because of the latter restriction, many students who wanted to go to the dance may have been deprived of the opportunity. And some of those who did buy tickets waited in line overnight to get them.

The Senate committee issued the late dance hours on the basis of dance attendance and name band. The IFC and WSGA action provided a clincher to the classification as big weekend. But there was a belief by many that this year's Mil Ball would be open to any student who wished to buy a ticket; or at least, not limited to ROTC cadets.

It is not the fault of the Mil Ball committee

that this impression existed. The committee never said the dance would be opened. It said only that ROTC crosses all schools.

It seems probable, however, that this misinformation was a big factor in the decisions to make Mil Ball weekend a big weekend. The Mil Ball, however, need not be forced open. If the military groups sponsoring the dance wish restriction, that is their prerogative. But big weekend classification does not seem logical for a restricted dance.

Theoretically, the restriction of ticket sales prohibits those not within ROTC—and all coeds—from buying Mil Ball tickets. These people, however, may buy tickets through ROTC students. But if this is true, what is the sense in restricting sales to ROTC students?

The defense, of course, is that ROTC students must be given a chance to attend their own dance. That is true. And because it is, it appears the dance is really not a big weekend dance, and not an all-University affair.

It would be good for the Senate committee, or All-College Cabinet, to review the classification of big weekends. There is no official designation for "big weekend." But the student body and administration knows which are the big weekends.

If a name band and attendance are the determinants, the Mil Ball classifies. A logical prerequisite, however, would require the dance be an all-University function. Mil Ball does not fit in this classification. And until it does, there is considerable doubt as to whether it deserves big weekend recognition.

## Campus Radio Station: Money Well-Spent

Last night, the campus radio station staff started walking on its way to what may become an extremely successful radio broadcasting station.

Two weeks ago, the entire staff went through two days of "dry runs"—complete programming without broadcasting—saw what they had accomplished, and what still had to be done. Then came two weeks of final advance preparation. Now station WDFM is in the process of seven-days-a-week actual programming of an entire proposed schedule of programs. These shows will be practiced, improved, and made ready for a day in the near future when the switch to the transmitter will be thrown and the station will be broadcasting.

The staff has been working hard toward its goal: the best station possible. It conducted surveys to discover what the students want on the station. It has spent many hours planning, rehearsing, rewriting, and getting the programs into final shape for what is now going on. Station WDFM is in the process of seven-days-a-week actual programming of an entire proposed schedule of programs. These shows will be practiced, improved, and made ready for a day in the near future when the switch to the transmitter will be thrown and the station will be broadcasting.

Unfortunately, due to equipment shortage which has hampered the station's progress, WDFM will only be broadcasting on FM for the first few weeks. Later, after translators are

installed, students in dormitories with AM radios will be able to listen to the station.

And until that switch is thrown, putting the station on the air, everything will be going through final rehearsal—realistic program days without transmission of signals.

Many students will be able to hear WDFM when it first goes on the air. Many townspeople will also be listening. Many persons, permanent residents of State College, have radios with FM bands. There are also FM sets in some dormitory lounges, fraternity houses, and sorority suites. So the station will not be without an audience.

The WDFM program schedule is definitely aimed at a University level. The schedule calls for all kinds of music: popular, semi-classical, and classical. Much of the music will be of the easy-to-listen-to-while-studying type. Up-to-the-minute newscasts and programs to acquaint the audience with what's going on at the University will be broadcast.

Now, WDFM is set to serve the University with a top-notch program schedule as soon as the final kinks are worked out. This should not take long. And when that time arrives, the student body should find its radio fee assessment well-spent.

—Bill Jost  
Wire editor

## Fraternity Action: Discrimination Cloak?

In a series of meetings this past weekend, the National Interfraternity Conference finally took a united stand on an issue that has vexed the fraternity system for some time. The outcome, however, is both disappointing and regrettable.

The conference passed the following autonomy resolution, cloaking the resolution in the outward desire for continued "unity of purpose and compatibility of interests" in the fraternity system: "that in the opinion of the National Interfraternity Conference each member fraternity should have the right to adopt qualifications for membership applicable to all its chapters free from any interference or restriction by any non-member."

The report of the committee on fraternity autonomy stated the problem of membership criteria had arisen "as a result of effort by several college administrators to regulate membership criteria." However, the reasons why these colleges ruled as they did should be kept in view; otherwise, the picture is distorted.

Each of the fraternities in question either practiced its biases and prejudices pursuant to a discriminatory clause in its charter, or was itself a victim of prejudice when expelled from the national organization for admitting to membership members of one minority or another.

In other words, there were two kinds of discriminatory practices that these college administrators were trying to curb.

Yet, both the report and the resulting resolution of the NIC refuse to come to grips with this basic and underlying problem in the fraternity system.

Instead, the resolution gives tacit consent to such action of the national organization, and any discriminatory practice of a member fraternity.

What, then, becomes the "purpose" and the "interest" of the fraternities?

Devotion to undemocratic—much less un-American—principles is hardly praiseworthy.

—Len Goodman

## Gazette . . .

**Today**  
ACEI, 7 p.m., Atherton Lounge.  
INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS RESEARCH ASSOCIATION MIXER, 7:30 p.m., Sigma Pi.  
NEW BAVARIAN SCHUPLATTELEERS, 8 p.m., 405 Old Main.  
NEWMAN CLUB, 7:30 p.m., Catholic Student Center.  
PENNS VALLEY SKI CLUB AND OUTING CLUB, 7:30 p.m., 109 Agriculture.  
PHI UPSILON OMICRON, 6:45 p.m., Home Economics Living Center.  
WRA MODERN DANCE CLUB, 7 p.m., White Hall Rhythm room.  
WRA UPPERCLASS BOWLING CLUB, 7 p.m., White Hall alleys.

**Tomorrow**  
ART EDUCATION FORUM, 7:30 p.m., 138 Temporary.  
PENN STATE GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY, 7:30 p.m., 218 Mineral Science.

POLITICAL SCIENCE CLUB, Dr. Ernst Freund speaker, 7:30 p.m., Home Ec Living Center.

STUDENT EMPLOYMENT

Waiters wanted on and off campus.

PLACEMENT SERVICE

The companies listed below will conduct interviews on campus. Schedule interviews now in 112 Old Main.

WHEELING STEEL COMPANY will interview Jan. B.S. graduates in Ch.E., Chem., CE, EE, IE, ME, Fuel Tech. and Metal. on Dec. 3.

BENDIX-WESTINGHOUSE (AUTOMOTIVE AIR BRAKE CO.) will interview Jan. B.S. graduates in ME on Dec. 3.

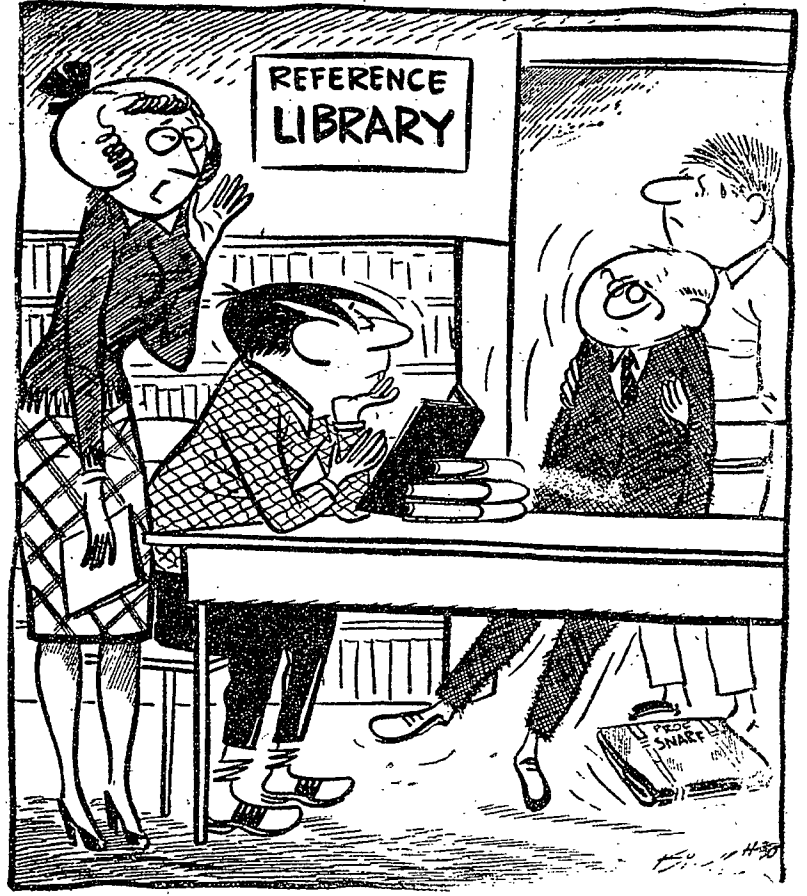
M. W. KELLOGG CO. will interview Ph.D. candidates in Chem., Ch.E. expecting to receive their degrees in 1954; M.S. candidates in CE, ME, and Ch.E. who have completed at least one semester; and B.S. Jan. graduates in Ch.E. in Dec. 7.

STANDARD PIEZO CO. will interview Jan. graduates in Bus. Adm., Bus. Mngt., Eco., IE, Arts and Letters, Labor Management Relations, and Math. on Dec. 7.

ATLAS POWDER CO. (CENTRAL RESEARCH LAB.) will interview Jan. B.S. graduates in Chem., Ch.E., Mining E, IE, CE; M.S. candidates in Ch.E. and Chem. who have completed at least one semester; and Ph.D. candidates in Ch.E. and Chem. expecting to receive their degrees in 1954 on Dec. 8.

## Little Man on Campus

By Bibler



"How's about getting somewhere outta sight—That's the second Prof that's looked in here and fainted."

## Glancing Around

### At a Peer

By DICK RAU

The plan for today called for a light going over on ROTC, the army, and military life in general. However, I read a column Monday night that deserves a little passing comment. And so, the military will have at least a week to live it up a little.

The column in question was written by Robert C. Ruark, a fairly well known columnist. His main gripe for the day seemed

to be students. He apparently doesn't like them. Why? They think. Right or wrong, they at least make some kind of attempt at exercising the gray tissue stuff between their ears. This, according to Ruark, is wrong.

I gathered from his outburst that the reason for his displeasure was the report that riots in Rome and Trieste, over the Trieste issue, were largely the work of students. It naturally follows, then, that such things as panty raids in this country are one aspect of an overall characteristic of students, i.e. violence as an outward manifestation.

In this manner, Ruark tells all students they should not try to think. The fact that panty raids in this country are precipitated by a minority is beside the point. Since I was not in Trieste or Rome at the time of the riots there, I will not venture a guess as to what percentage of the students in those two cities took part in the festivities.

The riots may illustrate something other than a love for activity. The students in Europe, by their action, reveal an interest in something other than sex. Sex is fine, but it has yet to solve a national problem other than sparseness of population.

Riots are not the answer to settling national problems either. But the action shows that students are at least doing a little thinking on national subjects. It might also be remembered that particularly in southern Europe, riots—not debates—have been the means of expressing displeasure with national situations or governmental actions. It might also be kept in mind that the person whose main concern is his next meal is not likely to take up violent action unless he is deprived of the meal. If this happens, he, too, will probably take violent action in the name of sex, or anything else that a spirited orator names as the cause of his trouble.

In maintaining his stand on student thinking, Ruark said:

"As part of college discipline, students should be made to write 100 times daily in all languages, including Sanskrit—I will not confuse myself with adults and will try hard not to think on the same plane with my elders. This especially includes politics."

I suppose this means that our

elders always think on the same high plane. Judging from some samples of thinking by "elders," I'm sure I "will try hard not to think on the same plane with my elders" on any subject.

As far as students confusing themselves with adults is concerned, I'm sure this philosophy will be greeted with ecstasy by the vast number of educators who are knocking themselves out trying to get students to act like adults, not to mention think like adults.

Ruark's opinions of students who try to think and express their thoughts apparently come from his college days, and a casual look around since the day he was graduated. He said:

"When I was a lad in college, all my wise compatriots were busy writing learned essays on world matters, communism, literature and the arts. Some were busily joining the Communist Party. Others were telling Herbert Hoover what to do about the depression and second-guessing Roosevelt when he came in.

"A few of us earned the finger of scorn from our betters since we devoted ourselves mainly to the pursuit of happiness, coeds and corn whiskey and read only the sports pages. Of that group, most of them grew up to succeed. The long-skulls who wrote the learned essays for the campus paper mostly wound up as minor clerks and press agents."

I have yet to hear a professor, or anyone with any amount of education, recommend that the solution to matters worthy of serious consideration is found in the bottom of a whiskey bottle, in the sports pages (with all due respect to my journalistic

(Continued on page five)

## LaVie Group Photo Schedule

The unofficial schedule for LaVie group pictures tonight at the Penn State Photo Shop is:

Men's Debate . . . . .	6:30
Forensic Council . . . . .	6:50
Board of Dramatics and Forensics . . . . .	7:10
Senate . . . . .	7:30
Farmer . . . . .	7:50