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The Daily Collegian

Collegian editorials represent the viewpoint of the writers...

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II. Radio Station: Service With Education?

(The second of two editorials concerning WDFM, campus radio station.) The purpose of Station WDFM is to provide practical educational radio work for interested students.

Under present operation, WDFM is broadcasting from 7:30 to 10:30 p.m. daily. This broadcasting time is in direct conflict with a recent poll of the student body.

Since the radio station's purpose is to provide training, many believe the station need not necessarily serve the student listening public. They hold the purpose of the station's education, not entertainment.

In the educational phase, the station can be useful in three fields: instruction, communication, and research. But it may be desirable to add a purpose for the station: satisfying student desires.

No one will argue the main purpose of the station is not education. The University has given the station \$3000 for its operation.

There may be, however, another consideration. The student body is also giving the station \$3000 annually through fees. And two class gifts have gone to the station.

The station's hours have been set from 7:30 to 10:30 p.m. to allow maximum use of its instructional opportunities. It is questionable,

however, whether moving the broadcasting time to 9 p.m. to midnight would harm those opportunities very much. A much larger number of students would be listening during the later hours. It seems this is the least the station can give those who help finance it.

Disadvantages to later operation are (1) programs would interfere with studying since they would not be entirely musical, and (2) the station staff would be forced to work at later hours.

But the station personnel do not expect all gravy. They know they might not have a station at all if it weren't for student interest. They must, therefore, serve that student interest whenever feasible.

When student government passed the radio fee, cabinet members surely felt students would be able to hear the station when it was a reality. True, the purpose then was as it is now: instruction and education.

Would instruction be sacrificed—if the station changed its hours—to the point where such change would not warrant serving the extra number of students? This is the basic question. It appears instruction would not be sacrificed that much.

We must have a station that starts slowly, out progresses surely. No one will dispute that. But in that start, the student body must be considered. If the station is to instruct and communicate, what can be better for it than a critical public?

The students may be mildly shocked when they realize the station is not as beneficial as they thought—justified or not—it would be. And the students will have a reasonable complaint.

American Youth Today—What Is Wrong?

II. Does Youth Have 'Robot-Like Disinterest?'

(The second of five editorials concerning the attitudes of American youth today.)

In the first section of this editorial we asked: What is it the university youth is hiding from?

The blunt answer is that he is hiding from life. But let us examine the essential components of the present American world and see how he is avoiding the issues of war, political affairs, art, religion, and education.

The issue of war is all about him. His friend are constantly being called into the armed services, he himself is either a veteran or planning a military life for a part of his years, the papers he reads continually mention the many wars around him.

Even the veteran, returning to the university has no new life, no new energies to impart. He remains a dummy, a quiet piece of machinery in a world that bustles with non-mechanical life.

Let us look at an analysis of the new veteran as described in the New York Times by a Korean correspondent who returned to observe these men at Yale. He says "many of the new veterans wear their hesitancy almost like a uniform, they are polite, almost timid. The

veteran starts with 'sir', interlaces 'sirs' in his conversation as though they were substitutes for punctuation, and he winds up with a 'sir' that would paralyze Willie and Joe."

This correspondent goes on to say these men appear continually to be waiting for orders and have "an almost robot-like disinterest."

What is the American youth's attitude toward politics? Here again we deal with one of the most important of current national problems, and a problem related to the communism question. Doubtless one of the best ways to defeat communism and its totalitarian effects is to strengthen our two-party system.

Does this mean that the university student, when he leaves the institution, will be a non-voter? Does this mean that he will be uninterested enough to join the 40 per cent of the country that does not bother to vote on election day?

Let us hope this is not true, for it is entirely essential to the existence of our liberties that intelligent voters cast their ballots.

There are, of course, reasons for this non-participation and we shall examine these reasons after we look at a few more fields tomorrow where youth's disinterest is showing. —Marshall O. Donley

Little Man on Campus By Bibler



Glancing Around

At the Military

By DICK RAU

A familiar sound, like that of a crate of dishes dropped at a plate makers' convention, dragged my thoughts from the astute contemplation of various bits of humanity—particularly the female ones—that travel along the Mall.

The sound, one which had been dinned into my unresponsive head for three years, belonged to a sergeant—an army sergeant. It was his voice.

The subject of this particular sergeant's attention happened to be one of those groups of fortunate souls who have been issued suits with an amazing similarity of appearance and who were walking about campus in a more or less orderly fashion.

Their fashion of walking happened to be somewhat less orderly than what the sergeant thought it should be. He was unhappy. The men in ROTC looked unhappy. The center of the borough of State College knew he was unhappy. I am not in ROTC. I was happy.

The incident, coupled with a newspaper item at the time, served to bring some memories to mind. Some of the memories I put right back. But there is one group that might be mentioned.

The newspaper item from Washington, presumably from the Pentagon, said the army is trying to designate soldiers in the field from other services by issuing a bright yellow label reading "U.S. Army" which will be sewed onto field uniforms.

It was my practice from time to time in the past, usually while sitting in mud, to ponder the astuteness of Pentagon personnel, particularly the policy formers.

This last item caused me to ponder some more, but in more comfortable surroundings. Except for unfortunate accidents, I have given up mud for sitting, eating, and sleeping.

The Pentagon has in the past traveled from one extreme to the other. Shortly after World War II, it embarked upon the program of having everyone

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Tonight on WDFM

- 7:25 Sign on
7:30 BBC—"12 By the Mail"
8:00 Record Review
8:30 Seque Session
9:00 Semi-pops
9:15 News
9:30 Columbia Masterworks Hour
10:30 Sign off

LaVie Group Photo Schedule

- The unofficial schedule for LaVie group pictures tonight at the Penn State Photo Shop: LA Council 6:30, Phys Ed Council 6:50, Home Ec Council 7:10, Chem-Phys Council 7:30, Ag Council 7:50

Attention MI and PHYS ED SENIORS. Today is the last day for seniors in the schools of Mineral Industries and Physical Education to have their pictures taken for the 1954 LAVIE. All photos are taken at the Penn State Photo Shop. No appointment is necessary.

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