

Published Tuesday through Saturday mornings inclusive during the University year by the staff of The Daily Collegian of the Pennsylvania State University.

# The Daily Collegian

Successor to THE FREE LANCE, est. 1887

Collegian editorials represent the viewpoint of the writers, not necessarily the policy of the newspaper. Unsigned editorials are by the editor.

Entered as second-class matter July 5, 1934 at the State College, Pa. Post Office under the act of March 3, 1879.

DAVE JONES, Editor

VINCE DRAYNE, Business Mgr.

STAFF THIS ISSUE: Night editor, Al Goodman; Copy editors, Paddy Beahan, Betty Koster; Assistants, Joe Beau Seigneur, Bill Pete, Nancy Gray, Inez Althouse, Margie Pearce.

## New Seating Plan Needs Repair—Already

One of the sorest questions before the student body in recent years has been the amount of seating space in Recreation Hall. The student body had long complained that there was not enough space to take care of both the students and non-students. In compliance with this feeling, access to Recreation Hall generally was limited to the students.

In the fall of 1952, the question of seats was again brought before the student body. Allegations were made that Rec Hall was at times not filled to capacity, and that tickets could have been sold to non-students.

Ernest B. McCoy, dean of the College of Physical Education and Athletics, brought forward a suggestion that would have provided a number of seats for sale at the door. There were several aspects to the idea. Selling tickets at the door would provide additional revenue—revenue that could conceivably cover, or help to cover, the cost of operation.

There was also the consideration of helping to improve student-faculty relations as well as student-town relations.

The matter was presented to All-College Cabinet, most of whose members had been at the first Student Encampment at Mont Alto where it was decided everything possible should be done to improve relations, all around.

Cabinet—and the student body in general—rose up like a wounded bull and denounced the whole plan as a scheme to deny the students their rights and privileges. Proponents of the plan retreated and ruffled hairs smoothed down.

Last year the Athletic Association kept a count of attendance at Rec Hall and announced

it was never filled to capacity. In the spring, a new plan was proposed to cabinet and passed.

The new plan provides that students shall exchange tickets in their AA books for tickets to Rec Hall. Such exchange was to continue until the night of the athletic event. Remaining seats would be sold to non-students, but the plan also called for at least 300 tickets to be put up for sale.

The situation as it now exists seems somewhat short of expectations. Students have the right to exchange tickets and demand seats until game time. There is no way for the AA office to know how many seats will be available until the last minute.

The AA office should try to make as much money as reasonable on the unused seats. But who among the non-student body is willing to stand around until game time to be told that there are no seats available.

If there are 300 seats to be sold in any situation, then a condition which now exists is the same that was proposed to cabinet in the fall of 1952—that seats would be set aside for non-students.

One of the difficulties cited by the AA office is the use of seating space to store coats. No one wants to spend a couple of hours balancing a coat on his lap in a usually warm building. Except for erecting a larger recreation building, probably the only solution to this problem will lie in providing space for checking coats.

In any event the seating plan will need an overhauling. The situation as it exists today is a waste of energy.

—Dick Rau

## Introducing a New Twist to Discipline

The Association of Independent Men Judicial Board of Review has gone slightly overboard in attempting to turn destruction into construction.

Earlier this week, the board recommended to the University that 34 students involved in a dormitory beer party donate blood to pay for their misconduct. For those unable to donate blood, a comparable punishment would be designated. The comparable punishment is yet to be determined.

The idea behind the recommendation was to do something constructive in the way of punishment. Certainly, those who would receive the blood see much constructiveness in this move. But what of those who are asked to donate?

Blood donations seem a little too personal for punishment in a civilized community. Justice may confine a man, put him on bread and water, even put him to death. But not many cultures really ask for blood.

This, of course, is stretching the situation. It is not a case of bleeding students for their evils. But the idea of asking for blood is a bit repulsive.

If students are permitted to give blood to compensate for violation of University regulations, blood may soon be flowing in the streets.

Perhaps the most objectionable part of the recommendation is that it places blood donations on a par with penalties. Donating blood is a rather altruistic act. If it is lowered to the status of penalty, the supply may some day become even more scarce than it now is.

For those who cannot donate blood, an alternative has been mentioned. The alternative, unfortunately, has not been drawn out. It is probable the alternative will not be of equal magnitude to donating blood. In this event, some students would be penalized more harshly. The deviation in discipline does not seem justified in this case.

The AIM judicial board is to be commended on its attempt to make a penalty constructive. This type of discipline has been too often lacking at Penn State. But it is doubtful if a recommendation to donate blood is desirable. What is more, it is doubtful if the University has jurisdiction to enforce such a recommendation, or would want to enforce it.

## Swedish Gym Meet: An Athletic Milestone

Too much cannot be said for the coming gymnastics meet between Penn State and the Swedish national team, scheduled for Jan. 16 in Recreation Hall.

The meet marks another milestone in the colorful history of Penn State sports. Dignitaries representing both the Swedish and United States governments will be present. Life magazine, and many metropolitan newspapers from all over the nation will cover the meet, and motion pictures will be taken to be shown later on television.

But more important, Penn State has been honored in being selected to compete with the Swedes during their extensive tour of this country. The Swedish team will make 30 stops during its whirlwind trip, but will actually compete with only five teams. Along with Penn State, Florida State University, University of Minnesota, University of Illinois, and the Midwest Gymnastics Association, will offer competition.

Penn State Coach Gene Wettstone, who was an Olympic coach during the 1952 games, has rated his team a good chance to beat the foreign squad, a team which has been judged one of the best in Europe today and includes all the members of the 1952 Swedish Olympic team. It has just completed a successful tour of European nations, including Russia.

But no matter which club is victorious, Penn State students and State College residents fortunate enough to witness the meet will see one of the most dazzling exhibitions of gymnastics available today.

Swedish gymnasts have enjoyed a world-wide reputation for many years. The nation's teams have won Olympic honors several times and today over a quarter million men and women in the country participate in the sport.

Wettstone praised the Swedish style of gymnastics in a recent article sent to future hosts of the team.

"Effortless grace and simplicity of style characterize this Swedish team," Wettstone wrote, "and one sight at the skill and precision of their calisthenic routine will be enough to convince anybody that it is gymnastically outstanding."

Penn State students need not be told about

their own team. The Lions, guided by Wettstone, won both the Eastern and National championships last year, and will undoubtedly be favored to repeat again.

Another important point is the international flavor of the event. The tour was originated as a goodwill trip, not sponsored by either government, but a voluntary venture. There are no monetary gains. Proceeds of the various exhibitions will pay expenses of the Swedish team.

Penn State hospitality and enthusiasm in undertakings of this nature have always been of an exceptionally high reputation. With the scheduling of this outstanding event, the student body is being given an opportunity to raise the University's prestige, better international relations, and see one of the most sparkling athletic contests ever held here. Let us make the most of it.

—Dick McDowell  
Asst. Sports Editor

## Gazette . . .

Today  
SOCIETY OF AMERICAN MILITARY ENGINEERS MEETING, 7 p.m., 1 Carnegie Hall.  
NEWMAN CLUB DISCUSSION, 7:30 p.m., 106 Osmond.  
NITTANY GROTTTO, 7:30 p.m., 121 M.I.  
POLITICAL SCIENCE CLUB, 7:30 p.m., Home Economics Living Center.

### INFIRMARY

John Arnold, Walter Campbell, Arnold Dalton, Ruth Ann Fitz, Donald Garber, David Grove, Jeannette Kohl, William Matthews, Joseph Mijares, Dean Moyer, Joseph Russo, Jane Schrope, John Seastone, Carolyn Stehly, Catherine Stewart, Margaret Troutman, Carl Von Wolffradt, Nancy Wenner, Archie Williams.

### PLACEMENT SERVICE

LOS ALAMOS SCIENTIFIC LABORATORY representatives will visit the campus Jan. 13 to interview Ph.D. candidates in Physics, Math, Chem. (Inorganic or Physical) and Metal, expecting to receive their degrees in 1954, M.S. candidates in Phys., Math, Chem., (Inorganic or Physical) and Metal, who have completed at least one semester, and graduates in the above fields who wish to consider summer work. CAMP DELWOOD in the Poconos will interview students here on Feb. 16, who are interested in counselors' positions. Interested students may sign up for appointment at the employment office.

## Little Man on Campus

By Bibler



"I'd like to see th' look on th' hostess's face when she hears about this."

## Mademoiselle Colombe

# Whispering Gallery

By CHIZ MATHIAS

Over the holidays we dropped into the Forrest Theatre in Philadelphia to catch the pre-Broadway tryout of Julie Harris' new foot-light vehicle "Mademoiselle Colombe."

Wandering along Walnut street we stumbled into former Players' stage manager Mesrop Kesdekian, who we thought was busy studying in Ireland. Seems Mike had been in Philly for three and a half weeks studying directing under Harold Clurman, director for "Colombe."

While we were talking on the street in front of the theater, Clurman got out of a cab and stopped to instruct Mike to "tell them to leave it in." He referred to the curtain scene in the second act where the betrayed husband in a sincere attempt to determine how Colombe could be unfaithful to him, demands his brother, Colombe's lover, kiss him as he kissed her. The scene brought an unexpected laugh from the audience, even when the original Jean Anouilh script was first presented before the more demonstrative Parisians in France. This disturbed the backers and practices were held with and without the scene.

We suspect that "Mademoiselle Colombe" underwent extensive cutting and revision before braving the Broadway hatchet men last night at Longacre Theatre in New York.

For as seen in Philadelphia, "Colombe" represented a personal triumph for Miss Harris and Edna Best, but a disappointment as a play. Adapted by Louis Kronenberg, drama critic of Time magazine, the play's many saucy and delightful sequences, mixed at times with real drama, are disjointed and shrouded by moments of confusion and skulduggery. We found the opening dialogue as tedious as a narrator spouting a prologue to bring everybody up to date before the real story begins.

The plot concerns backstage life in Paris at the turn of the century and a flower girl who becomes an actress and learns to live a second life of pleasure outside her husband's twisted search to find reality. Lucien, the husband, looks upon the theater and the world as a fabricated Hades, endowed only with shadows and cardboard. As Colombe, the flower girl who manages to take a lover and still remain an obedient and respectful wife for the music teacher who left her for the army, Julie Harris is her usual magnetic self with a freshness and vitality which seems ready to catapult her into the very laps of the audience. In a "little girl" voice of rising and falling scales, she resurrects the lightheartedness and gaiety of Paris, 1900, which the play as a whole never seems to capture completely.

Edna Best, as Madame Alexandra, temperamental grand dame of the theater-world and bitter rival of Sarah Bernhardt, expounds a certain humor and sometimes fire into the play. She is particularly good in the play-within-a-play. On stage she is a symbol of eternal youth, chirping "I am 19," while offstage she is the undevoted mother of two grown men and the holy terror of the backstage lot as she hobbles about with her knee pad or cane. Eli Wallach is sometimes hard to follow as the disillusioned musician who fell in love with Colombe at first sight. He exists in his own maladjusted world of emotional immaturity. When he rejects a deferment and goes off to fight for France, Colombe and their child are left in the safekeeping (?) of Mme. Alexandra. Cinderella-like Colombe becomes an actress and learns to live and laugh and provide a man with pleasure. Julien returns on leave informed of her infidelity. In his own blind sincerity he cannot understand why she has forsaken him. The author pulls a dirty trick on his audience and a novelty of staging. Instead of a resolution, the final scene is a touching flashback to the meeting of the flower girl and the pianist two years before and their mutual love . . . Lucien is left alone in his dilemma to whisper the curtain line, "And so the story begins . . ." while the audience is left treading clouds.

## Tonight on WDFM

7:25	Sign on Prevue
7:30	Adventures in Research
8:00	Record Prevue
8:15	Let We Forget
8:30	Hamburger Stand
9:00	Semi-Pops
9:15	News
9:30	Ballet Theatre
10:30	Sign off

## La Vie Group Photo Schedule

The unofficial schedule of group pictures for the 1954 La-Vie today at the Penn State Photo Shop:  
Lion's Paw . . . . . 6:50  
Penn State Club . . . . . 7:10