

Published Tuesday through Saturday mornings, during the University year, the Daily Collegian is a student-operated newspaper.

# The Daily Collegian

Successor to THE FREE LANCE, est. 1877

Editorials represent the viewpoint of the writers, not necessarily the policy of the paper. Unsigned editorials are by the editor.

Entered as second-class matter July 6, 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, Baylee Friedman, Copy editors, Don Shoemaker, Bill Snyder, Assistants, Al Klimcke, Stan Frolic, Marilyn Ambler, Nancy Gray, Brooke Moyer, Bobbie Hendel.

## WSGA Elections: An Unfortunate Decision

Women's Student Government Association has decided to let all coeds decide whether or not WSGA will release its spring election figures. At first glance, this appears a wise decision. A further look, however, will show the decision not only a poor one, but an unnecessary one.

Senate of WSGA said early last week it would decide whether or not to release election figures. In the past, WSGA has withheld vote figures from the student body.

When confronted with a decision, however, WSGA balked. A University representative raised the question of the legality of releasing figures without taking a vote of women students. This question of legality was based on precedent set two years ago when WSGA took a vote among coeds to see if results should be released. The representative said WSGA had the responsibility to take another vote on the matter to see whether figures should be released.

Senate fell in line with this suggestion. Most senators seem to feel the results should be released. They did not, however, have the courage of their convictions. They chose the easy way out. They decided to throw the situation to all women, leaving themselves the easy task of doing as the coeds wish. Thus, WSGA Senate refused to take a stand where it not only has the right, but the duty.

Two years ago, when the question of releasing vote figures was put before women students, coeds voted overwhelmingly to keep the figures secret. Many women now feel the question was then presented in a biased manner.

One argument for keeping results quiet is to prevent candidates from having hurt feelings upon seeing results published. Another is that

it is of no interest to the student body in general what the exact vote was. Those favoring the release say WSGA's seat on All-University Cabinet makes that position of general student interest. They also say women who want the right to their own government must also have the maturity to release vote figures. The problem is one of principle.

It is obvious why some favor referring the decision to all women students. Most women students will not know the complete situation. They are happy the way things are. There is a chance they might be unhappy under a change. Therefore, they will wish to assure continued happiness; they will want to retain the status quo. They will, probably, vote to leave things the way they are.

Those who oppose releasing the figures know this. That is why they propose referendum. This has democratic atmosphere. But it will not bring a wise result.

Senate of WSGA has the responsibility to lead. There is no reason why it must refer this question to women students again. Senate must lead, and they must lead on the basis of principle.

Senate has not made all bad decisions, however. It will present arguments both for and against release when women vote Thursday. All attempts are being made to present both sides of the question objectively. This is to the unqualified credit of WSGA.

The misfortune here is that attempts to stop the vote release have been disguised as "responsibility." Referring the decision to all coeds will assure the decision most coeds want. It will not, however, assure an intelligent decision. Unfortunately, WSGA Senate was tricked into believing a majority decision and a wise decision are always one in the same.

## More Suggestions Mean a Better Gift

Suggestions are being received for the 1954 senior class gift at the Student Union desk in Old Main. And if only because of the amount of money at stake—besides the real value to the University of any gift—the problem deserves the attention of all seniors.

The policy in the past seems to have been the selection of some gift to the University for which the University would not ordinarily have money. It is the class' way of saying the University will have improved itself for our having been here; it is a gift of appreciation.

And, over the years the University has profited from such gifts as the Old Main chimes, benches scattered over campus, funds to purchase an organ or stained glass window for the All-Faith Chapel, and more than half the needed funds for a student press.

Funds for the press, and a lighting system for the old portion of the University Library, are still needed; but there must be hundreds of

ways the campus could be improved—even to enclosing the grass in barbed wire.

April 2 is the deadline for submitting gift suggestions, at which time the gift committee will select those for the senior ballot, April 28-30.

During many primaries at election time, few turn out to select candidates that will be run on the final ballot. And, because of such primaries, the final elections have often been lacking in qualified candidates. Too few realize it is at the primaries that the issue is often decided.

This—in a somewhat round-about fashion—really demonstrates the importance of getting a number of suggestions now from as many students as possible. Then there will at least be a choice April 28-30, and more choices means greater possibility of finding better gifts.

Investment of a little time now may pay great dividends in the University's future: consider, then suggest.

—Len Goodman

## Gazette...

Tonight

- ART ED STUDENT FORUM, 7 p.m., 138 Temporary
- AGRICULTURE SPEAKING CONTEST FINALS, 7 p.m., 109 Agriculture
- ARNOLD AIR SOCIETY, 7:30 p.m., Alpha Chi Sigma, 406 S. Pugh street
- BELLES-LETTRES, 7 p.m., Northwest Lounge, Atherton
- COLLEGIAN AD STAFF, 7 p.m., 102 Willard
- COLLEGIAN BUSINESS STAFF, 6:45 p.m., Business Office
- COLLEGIAN CIRCULATION STAFF, 6:30 p.m., Business Office
- COLLEGIAN EDITORIAL CANDIDATES, 7 p.m., 111 Carnegie
- COLLEGIAN PROMOTION STAFF, 7 p.m., Collegian Office
- FROTH EDITORIAL STAFF, 7 p.m., 2 Carnegie
- HOME ECONOMICS CLUB, 6:30 p.m., 105 White Hall
- PENN STATE VETERANS, 8 p.m., American Legion
- PI GAMMA ALPHA, 7:30 p.m., Main Eng.
- POLLOCK COUNCIL, 6:30 p.m., Nittany Dorm 20
- SIGMA ALPHA ETA, 7:30 p.m., 19 Sparks
- THETA SIGMA PHI, 6:45 p.m., 107 Willard

### STUDENT EMPLOYMENT

The following camps will interview prospective counselors. Students may sign up at the Student Employment office. Interviews will take place: Lillian Taylor Camp—March 23; Camp Onawandah—March 26; Camp Menatoma—March 29, 30; Clear Pool Camp, N.Y.—April 1; Camp Kiwanis—April 2; Camp Conrad Weiser—April 7.

## Safety Valve...

### Hits Players Review

TO THE EDITOR: I wish to take issue with the review of the Players' production "Death of a Salesman" by Edmund Reiss. (The review appeared in Friday's Daily Collegian.) In all due fairness to him, I must say that I may have seen a more favorable performance, since it was on the evening following his review. However, I think it implausible that last Friday evening's performance was an accident for there was too much above the average quality for a college production to see it, ridden as hard as Reiss seemed to ride it. His opening statement was a bit harsh and I feel he was caught in the tumultuous waves of his own metaphor.

However, there is another factor which might explain his inability to see these student actors as anything but amateurs, and that is what might be an off stage familiarity with them. If Greer was more convincing as a student in the flashbacks than as a 34-year old bum in the play proper it is because he is a student. This must be considered in any criticism of the production.

That these students were able to handle as well something which is difficult for an amateur group, no matter how professional, is also to be commented upon.

"Death of a Salesman" cannot be viewed steadily for two and a half hours at one sitting without some feeling of fatigue. This is more the fault of the playwright than of the Players.

I felt credit must be given where credit is due and taken away from where it is no longer due, at least not in such unqualified terms.

Letter cut

—Robert J. Saunders

## Little Man on Campus

By Bibler



"Worthal and I broke up—I got a .65 average last semester, and he said he just couldn't go with a girl smarter than he was."

### Excursion 5: Memories

## Walden Sea

By LEN GOODMAN

I wondered and pondered—asked but received no answer—how I would look back upon these college years some day. Reminiscing does become an occupational hazard of old age, I'm told. Then, what else is left but memories.

Memories only are what was left for the old age of Willy Loman, the salesman of the very excellent Players' production this weekend. Willy's plight forcibly brought this to my attention, though in a somewhat roundabout fashion: I continually asked myself what, with so many memories of happy times—some of which were enacted for us—what would drive him to suicide?

Then, it occurred to me that here we had a living example, unfolding in the Players' production, of the very real difference between goals and ideals as "directives" in a man's life.

A goal may be attained; it is that end for which we labor, the pot of gold—a usually small pot for the realistic—at the end of everyone's rainbow.

But, the ideals cannot be attained; they may be illustrations of one sort or another, but they are necessary illusions—necessary in the sense that one patterns his conduct from them.

A goal usually presupposes no set pattern of conduct, but may be achieved by many methods, all of which might work. The ideal does presuppose a certain pattern of conduct for its fulfillment, a fulfillment which never comes. The ideal, then, is a directive, a basis for judging what is good and bad, and deciding, given the circumstances, "right" conduct.

There is a real difference between the goal and the ideal.

It was Success that Willy sought after during his whole life: Success, that illusive thing, the "Bitch Goddess" of industrial society (said William James).

When Success could not be had, a transfer was made to the success of his boys. It was shown how he continually wavered between the two poles of concern, his own success, and the success of his boys. When both were denied, it finally led to the collapse of his spirit and a mental breakdown—the extent of the latter open to conjecture.

And, all this resting on a background of a childish faith in man in a society in which man was pictured as less than the proverbial cog of a machine.

Willy's ideals were embodied in

the ideal of executive, unrealized in the son of his old boss; and the remarkable successes and adventures of his brother Ben, unrealized in himself—brother Ben, who had "gone into the jungle at 17 and come out at 21 a rich man."

The ideals Willy saw in these two men—the executive and the adventurer—were now ideals for patterning his conduct, and the court of last resort for a wearied spirit.

The ideals came too late, however, and functioned more to comfort and to justify, than to direct his life. Willy quickly grasped suicide as the only way to assure Success, however vicarious, now for his son, and in the security and comfort of the last years of his wife.

Wicked? Sinful. No — but painfully pathetic: a rational and sensitive man applying old hopes and values to the new situation of an irrational and insensitive society.

Even if one rejects the view of society underlying the play, still the need to discriminate between goals and ideals remains. If the view is accepted, then all that is left is either withdrawal as one of Willy's sons vowed in the end, or the defiance of the other son.

Willy failed miserably. Maybe he could have controlled the circumstances affecting his life, maybe not. Either way, a life pattern was missing: he possessed few ideals, and sorry goals.

Memories remained for Willy, but only to pain him; for they were memories of an empty life.

### Fresh Council to Meet

Freshman Council will meet at 6:30 tonight in 103 Willard.

### Tonight on WDFM

91.1 MEGACYCLES

- 7:25 Sign on
- 7:30 Adventures in Research
- 7:45 Guest Star
- 8:00 Record Prevue
- 8:15 Let's We Forget
- 8:30 Hamburger Stand
- 9:00 Semi-pops
- 9:15 Campus News
- 9:30 Ballet Theater
- 10:30 Sign off

**"THE DUKE" IS COMING THURSDAY at the STATE THEATRE**