

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. 1887

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 5, 1934 at the State College, Pa. Post Office under the act of March 3, 1879.

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## WD Separation Plan: Questions Open

It is difficult to agree with the philosophy behind the physical separation plan for Hamilton Hall and the further suggestions of the West Dorm Council concerning male housing in the West Dorm area. However, appreciating the circumstances behind the decision and suggestions, one can only mildly criticize—and then only very mildly.

Hamilton Hall is to be divided into seven units by means of firedoors built across the hallways. Each unit will house 70 to 80 men; and a 40-60 ratio will prevail in every 100 freshmen and upperclassmen.

Counselors will be moved from their present suites into centrally located single rooms in each unit. The suites will be used for undergraduate study lounges.

The further suggestions of the West Dorm Council include the establishment of a "core system" in the area by which an upperclassman and his friends would be permitted to live in groups on the same floor; increasing the number of upperclassmen in the area; lowering the admission averages; and re-education of upper-

classmen to the responsibilities involved in living in the West Dorms.

One wonders where the function of student government in the West Dorms lies after the program is completed; or if the student government is to be used merely to keep the peace, much on the order of additional counselors. That these suggestions did not come from the counselors themselves only points to this possibility at the present time.

Yet, the new proposals, and those that have been acted upon in the physical separation plan, are sound ideas, no matter what their source. That the suggestions should come from student government is, from one point of view, to the credit of student government: there are disciplinary problems needing solution in the West Dorms, as in most dorms at most universities.

Of course, accepting this point of view does not answer the question, "What is now the function of student government?" But, then, you should answer, "What was the function of student government?"

—Len Goodman

## Bermuda Shorts: The Unnecessary Stigma

Coeds have finally won the right to wear Bermuda shorts, but circumstances under which they may be worn have been so closely defined that the whole situation has become slightly ridiculous.

Bermuda shorts may be worn on campus to and from recreational activities. Those who wear them must use side entrances to the dormitory. The shorts may not be worn on the golf course, to class, in dining halls, or in dorm lounges. This is the type of restriction placed upon their wear.

All this only serves to do one thing: imply there is something wrong with wearing Bermuda shorts, which, in this instance, there is not. Regulations which force coeds to sneak about through side entrances, and in general avoid those who might see the Bermuda shorts, gives to the shorts a connotation they do not deserve.

We have taken an archaic attitude toward this question. Bermuda shorts are quite acceptable—morally and in appearance. They are becoming normal casual wear and often look much better than slacks. They are generally worn with knee socks, and as a result only knees show—less of the leg than is revealed when skirts are worn.

It has been argued that allowing the shorts to be worn in dining halls would be a step

backward, since new dress restrictions have been placed on dormitory men. This argument is invalid. Men's dress regulations are for Sunday noon and evening meals, and even then they are not enforced. They are voluntary.

Placing unnecessary restrictions on perfectly acceptable Bermuda shorts gives them a stigma. Requiring coeds to walk through side doors, and prohibiting them from wearing the shorts in such logical places as dorm lounges, are based upon an unjustified view of the situation.

It is interesting to speculate what the University would say about the "shorts" if they were called Bermuda "longs" instead.

—Len Goodman

## Safety Valve...

### On Chapel Design

TO THE EDITOR: Georgian architecture was the result of men's efforts in the first three quarters of the 18th century to give dignified and appropriate form to their needs as worshippers... Georgian, even then, was not a truly American expression. Now it certainly is not a true American expression... Need we continue to make all of Penn. State look as if it were built before 1855?

... Students at Penn State drive fast motor cars, wear Bermuda shorts, and have different ideas about life than the people of pre-Civil War days.

Do you want to tie your Chevy to a hitching post in front of a fake "Georgian" chapel, or do you want to walk into a place of worship that is a true expression of 20th century ideas, life, and faith?

—Gwen Hoover

### Liberal Arts Cuts

TO THE EDITOR: I do not favor a cut system, nor do I oppose one. I merely promised to ask the faculty of the College of the Liberal Arts to consider seriously any proposals the Liberal Arts Student Council would care to make.

I distinctly and emphatically told the members of the Liberal Arts Student Council that I had no particular comments on the University's decision to reinstitute Saturday classes. However, I did say that there was, in my opinion, an educational advantage in keeping students in State College over the weekends.

The rest of the headline story on April 7 is an example of rather florid creative writing.

—Ben Euwema, dean  
College of the Liberal Arts

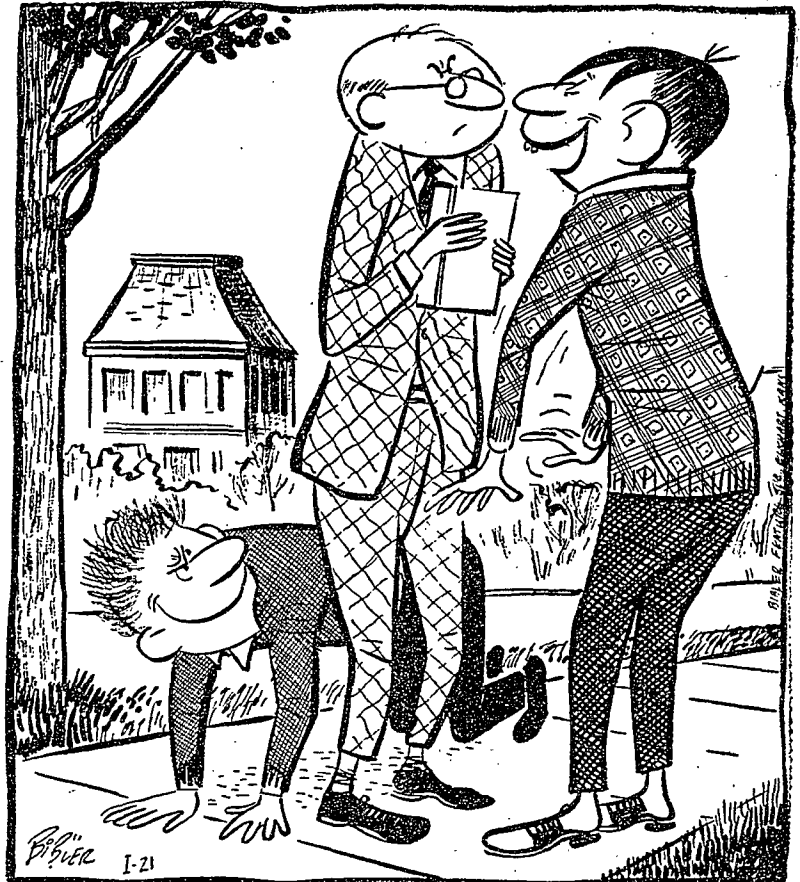
## Gazette...

Tonight

- ALPHA EPSILON DELTA, film, 7:30 p.m., 10 Sparks
- BLOCK AND BRIDLE CLUB, 7 p.m., 206 Agriculture
- COSMOPOLITAN CLUB, slides, 7:30 p.m., 107 Main Engineering
- FENCING CLUB, 7:30 p.m., North Corridor Rec Hall
- GRADUATE STUDENT COUNCIL, 9 p.m., 118 W. Beaver avenue
- HELLENIC SOCIETY, 8 p.m., 210 S. Gill street
- NEWMAN CLUB DISCUSSION, 7:30 p.m., 106 Willard
- NEWMAN CLUB RADIO PROGRAM, 9:15 p.m., WMAJ
- NEWMAN CLUB SOCIAL COMMITTEE, 7 p.m., McElwain Rec Room
- NEWS AND VIEWS, 6:30 p.m., 14 Home Economics
- NITTANY GROTTO, 7:30 p.m., 121 Mineral Industries
- PHI MU ALPHA, 9 p.m., 200 Carnegie
- PI LAMBDA SIGMA PLEDGES, 7 p.m., 14 Sparks
- SAME, 7 p.m., 2 Carnegie

## Little Man on Campus

By Bibler



"Ed and I have been drafted, Professor Snarf—So it looks like we'll have to drop your course."

### Interpreting the News

## Ike's Retaliation Policy Is Unclear

By J. M. ROBERTS JR.

Associated Press News Analyst

Did President Eisenhower, speaking without a prepared text, say something Monday night which might be interpreted abroad as pulling one of the fangs of Secretary Dulles' retaliation policy?

Dulles had said only a few hours before that Red China was getting awfully close to the line which would call down the retaliation policy.

Several times he has explained that the great force of the policy lies in letting an aggressor know the risks he is running, but not just when, where, or how retaliation would be put into effect. This very process is now being applied regarding Indochina.

This has all been coupled with the "new look" in the American military program, with emphasis on atomic weapons. Under this program, retaliation can be undertaken within the whole range of military, economic and political weapons. Dulles laid heavy stress on this ability.

Now the President says with respect to the H-bomb, in a speech largely designed to offset worldwide hysteria:

"We know with respect to that bomb we're not going to start a war. It's not even going to be used by our initiative."

Does that mean, for instance, that Russia might be able to invade Turkey with so-called conventional weapons in the assurance that Moscow would not be H-bombed?

Such an interpretation would fly full in the face of both the retaliation policy and the facts of life. It is inconceivable that the President meant any such thing. He went right on talking at that point about the deterrent qualities of the retaliation policy. A promise not to be the first to use the bomb would vitiate that, might lead Russia to believe she could

use ground force, her greatest strength, without atomic retaliation at home.

The President could only have meant that the weapons possessed by America would not be brought into use unless someone else took the initiative, creating the fateful situation.

People everywhere are badly upset about this H-bomb business. They have progressed from thoughtful consideration of what man must do to avoid war to plain, downright unprofitable worry.

That's what causes such scenes as Monday's in the British House of Commons, where the debate got all out of hand and dwindled into recriminations. People and nations who contemplate the possibility of utter destruction do not think clearly, do not weigh phrases carefully. The words in which these matters are to be discussed need to be chosen with the utmost attention to ultimate definition.

The President left a good general impression of a man who was seeking to allay fear and get people

(Continued on page five)

### Tonight on WDFM

91.1 MEGACYCLES

- 7:25 Sign On
- 7:30 Record Review
- 8:00 Adventures in Research
- 8:15 Horizons Unlimited
- 8:30 Semi-Pops
- 9:15 News
- 9:30 BBC Drama—"Richard II"
- 10:30 Sign Off

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