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# The Daily Collegian

Successor to THE FREE LANCE, Oct. 1887

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

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## 'Mr. State' Contest Needs Revamping

In setting up criteria for judging entries in the Mr. Penn State contest, the Greeters Club has unfortunately set up a superfluous and possibly a misleading set of qualifications.

The objective of the contest is laudable, as such contests go. It is conducted mainly to give recognition to the "most well-rounded" male student at the University. Whether such recognition is in order, when the majority of contestants have already been acclaimed through elective positions and membership in numerous honorary groups, is only a minor factor to be considered. The main issue is that the bases of selecting this "most well-rounded male" overlap and are inconsistent to the extent of defeating the main purpose of the contest.

The basis of judging has been divided into six categories; each category is rated on a point basis. The two divisions given the highest point value are:

1. Promoting Penn State off the campus.
  2. Participation in campus events.
- Falling under the former category are such contributions as summer ROTC camps, conclaves, and academic course field trips, the majority of which are required of several hundreds of students at the University and merit very little special recognition for participants.

The second category includes all extra-curricular activities at the University. "Service to the University" has been given the next highest rating on the criteria rostrum and actually includes, once more all extra-curricular activities. The Greeters have made a rather vague distinction between this "service" unit and the "campus events participation" but if analyzed, both categories engulf the same activities.

The remaining three categories are character,

popularity, and the promotion of unity among the student body. Character, beyond obvious and satisfactory participation in activities, can be disqualified here as an ambiguous means of judging contestants. Popularity, too, is usually dependent upon verbal and written display of a contestant's name.

Promoting unity overlaps with participation in campus activities. Under the promotion category fall such attempts as hat societies, counselors, and pep rallies, all of which can be smartly labeled "campus activities."

Perhaps the most ironical point of the contest is the final voting procedure. A committee of faculty and staff members will select the five most qualified applicants. The application forms will be numbered, rather than labeled with contestants' names. The five outstanding applications will be chosen for quality and quantity of activities listed. (It would seem here that they will be chosen for skillful distribution of campus activities among the various categories listed).

However, from the five finalists, Mr. Penn State will be chosen on the basis of popularity through audience applause at the Bell Hop Ball. It seems rather distorted that five men who have to this point been dissected for activity ratings, should in the final analysis be judged for popularity. Either popularity should be the original chief basis, or the winner should be selected for activities.

Mr. Penn State has been and probably will remain a title of honor and distinction. The validity of this is not in dispute. However, the Greeters Club would do well to set up a more consistent basis of selection, which does not rely so entirely on a repetitive list of campus activities.

—Peggy McClain

## New Post Office Would Cause Friction

Within a month the voters of the borough will have decided whether the name of their community is to remain unchanged or if they will henceforth be residents of Mt. Nittany.

There has been much commotion since the question was first raised, especially after the petition that the name be changed to Mt. Nittany was circulated successfully and the option placed on the ballot. State College-ites, students, and casual observers have all made their comments—and their jokes—and the inevitable sides have been taken up.

Many have staunchly supported the change, saying that the community must keep pace with the progress of the University. Others have, with equal strength, taken on the cause of the opposition, using the argument that the change in the status of Penn State has no connection whatsoever with the borough.

On the fence are what might be the bulk of the people associated with the local question. They are those who can see definite values in changing the name of the community, but are not so sure they like the idea of changing it to Mt. Nittany. Some other name, or just not Mt. Nittany, is what they are looking for. These are the persons who might easily decide the vote of the question.

The argument in favor of the change—the side taken by the Daily Collegian—generally revolves around an issue aptly explained by President Milton S. Eisenhower in a letter on his position sent to the State College Chamber of Commerce. President Eisenhower pointed out that the name should be changed to assist the school in changing its title from college to university. With the borough named State College, too many people are still inclined to refer to the University as the State College, he said.

To this and other arguments, we would like to add another—the post office argument. In

news released yesterday, the Board of Trustees executive committee revealed it was considering establishing a post office on campus. Although it was stated that this would be done only after consultation with townspeople, it seems very clear to us that the Trustees are making provisions for the possibility that the name change move might fail.

The governing hands of the University seem to feel that the confusion caused by the conflicting names of State College and the University is so great that something must be done in any case. This means that if the voters do not see fit to alleviate this confusion, the University will be forced to divorce itself from the community in name.

Such action would be unfavorable for several obvious reasons. Such a move would create two mediocre post offices in place of the efficient one now operating. It would create two rival post offices competing for the same outgoing trade. And it would create untold confusion in mail delivery, such as would happen if two telephone companies serviced the borough.

Above all, however, is the intangible element—the division the move would create between the community and the campus. Two communities would exist on the grounds where for 99 years only one has found room to stand. Students would not be drawn into town and townspeople to the campus, as is now the case with this single service. A lack of harmony would be felt; and it would take years to erase this.

Thus to avoid this separation of the community and University, as well as to recognize the growth of the school and the resulting confusion, it seems that a change is needed. It can not be said Mt. Nittany is the only answer, but it seems to be a step in the right direction.

—Diehl McKalip

## Gazette...

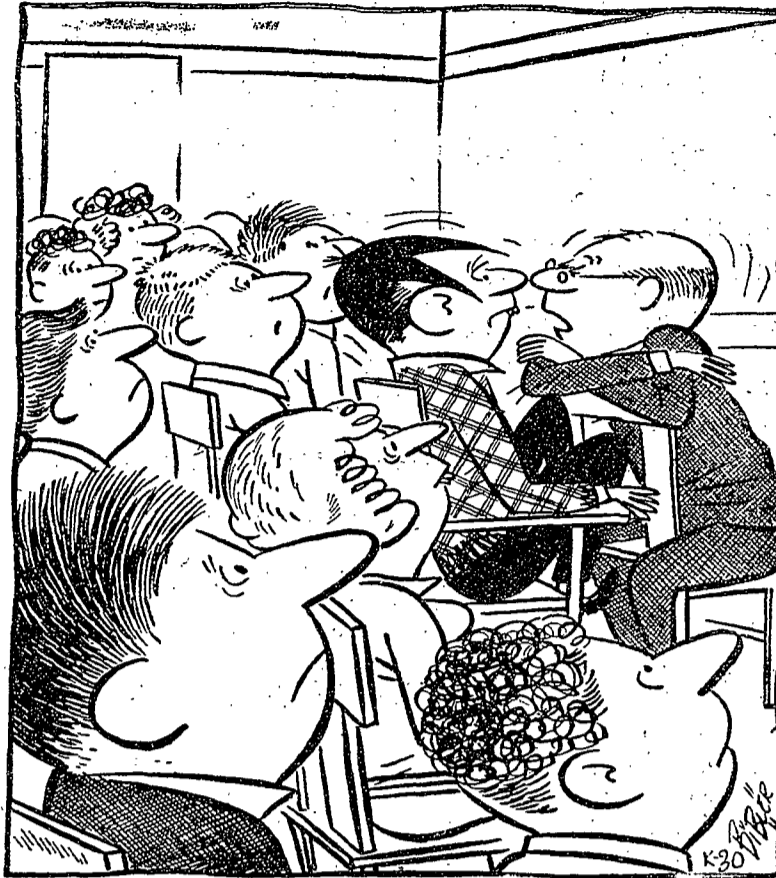
- ACCOUNTING CLUB MEETING, 7 p.m., Alpha Epsilon Pi
- CHESS CLUB, 7 p.m., 3 Sparks
- FROTH AD STAFF AND CANDIDATES, 7 p.m., Froth Office
- FROTH EDITORIAL AND ART STAFFS AND CANDIDATES, 7:30 p.m., 1 Carnegie Hall
- INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS RESEARCH ASSOCIATION, 7:30 p.m., mixer, 7:30 p.m., Lambda Chi Alpha
- MINERAL INDUSTRIES STUDENT COUNCIL, 7:30 p.m., 209 Willard Hall
- MODERN DANCE CLUB, 7 p.m., White Hall
- NEWMAN CLUB CHORAL GROUP REHEARSAL, 7:30 p.m., Our Lady of Victory Church
- NEWMAN CLUB DAILY RECITATION OF ROSARY, 4:30 p.m., Our Lady of Victory Church
- NEWMAN CLUB LECTURE DISCUSSION, 7:30 p.m., Catholic Student Center
- PENN STATE BARBELL CLUB, 7 p.m., 202 Willard Hall
- PENN STATE GRANGE, 7 p.m., 100 Weaver Hall
- PENN STATE OUTING CLUB, FIELD AND STREAM DIVISION, 7:30 p.m., 10 Sparks
- PI LAMBDA THETA, 7:30 p.m., Grange Lounge
- PLAYERS' ADVERTISING CREW, 6:45 p.m., Schwab Loft

SENIOR BOARD OF THE DAILY COLLEGIAN BUSINESS STAFF, 6:30 p.m., 9 Carnegie Hall  
UNITED CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION ASSEMBLY, 7 p.m., 304 Old Main  
UPPERCLASS BOWLING, 7 p.m., White Hall Bowling Alleys

UNIVERSITY PLACEMENT SERVICE  
Those qualified for interviewing are: undergraduates who will receive degrees in January, 1955; M.S. candidates who have completed at least one semester of study; and PhD candidates who will receive degrees in 1955. Arrangements for interviews may be made now in 112 Old Main.  
STANDARD OIL OF INDIANA: B.S. in Ch. E.; M.S. & Ph.D. in Chem. Oct. 19.  
DU PONT: Ph.D. in Ch. E., Chem., Phys., ME, Ceramics & Metallurgy Oct. 19, 20, & 21.  
MALLINCKRODT CHEM. WORKS: B.S., M.S. & Ph.D. in Chem., Metal., Ch. E., ME, EE & Comm. Chem. Oct. 19 & 20.  
OHIO DEPT. OF HIGHWAYS: B.S. in CE Oct. 20.  
NORTH AMERICAN AVIATION (Los Angeles): B.S., M.S. & Ph.D. in Aero. E., CE, Arch. E., EE, & ME Oct. 20.  
NORTH AMERICAN AVIATION (Columbus): B.S. & Ph.D. in Aero. E., ME, CE, EE, Arch. E.; M.S. in Math., Aero. E., ME, CE, EE, Arch. E. Oct. 21.  
NORTH AMERICAN AVIATION (LOS ANGELES): B.S., M.S. & Ph.D. in Aero. E., CE, Arch. E., EE, ME on Oct. 20.  
HAWAIIAN SUGAR PLANTERS ASSOCIATION: B.S. in Ch. E.; M.S. & Ph.D. in Org. Chem. on Oct. 25 & 26.  
WEST VIRGINIA PULP & PAPER: B.S. in Chem., EE, IE, ME & Sanitary Engr. on Oct. 25.  
U.S. NAVAL ORDANCE LABORATORIES: B.S. in EE, ME, IE, Ch. E. & Metallurgy on Oct. 26.  
BOEING AIRPLANE COMPANY: B.S. in Aero. E., CE, EE & ME; M.S. & Ph.D. in Phys. & Math. on Oct. 26.  
NATIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON AERONAUTICS: B.S. & M.S. in Metallurgy, Aero. E., ME & Ch. E.; Ph.D. in Ch. E. & Phys. on Oct. 26.

## Little Man on Campus

By Bibler



"Class—the odds are 40 to one that someone in here will flunk, unless of course, he should decide to drop this course."

## College Students—Mature?

# Adam's Other Rib

By PEGGY McCLAIN

Penn State students last week watched with interest the reports of "we want beer" riots staged by students at Bucknell University, and responded with a wide range of opinions. Some thought the mob antics were an ideal way to "stick up for our rights." Others considered the riots unwise, childish, and quite futile.

Actually the riots were a grand example of why college men and women so often are considered immature and foolish. And despite the differing opinions that students here hold about the demonstrations, we must realize that students at the University have not been beyond somewhat similar revolts and foolish mob performances.

All of which makes one wonder just how authentic are the labels of "immature" and "shortsighted" placed upon college students by the outside world. From all appearances, society just might be right.

The word maturity is one of the English language's greatest claims to ambiguity and vagueness. It covers a multitude of characteristics, and unfortunately people seldom bother to define it, for themselves or for others.

To label someone immature is a perfect means of escape when that someone does not agree with one's actions or beliefs. And to consider oneself mature is an extremely popular form of rationalizing thoughts and actions that are otherwise often unexplainable. Maturity might be defined as the search for maturity. And if such is the case, the whole matter is never-ending, for few persons ever achieve complete maturity.

Maturity, as used here, does not refer to the physical aspects studied by psychologists, but rather to the aesthetic and mental process, of every day living and adjustment. Perhaps for our purposes, maturity could be defined as an inner confidence of mind, in which one realizes and lives his own convictions, and at the same time accepts the theory that these beliefs are purely relative and neither can nor may be imposed rightly on others as a way of living and thinking. If such a theory prevailed, then maturity could very well be present in the search for maturity.

And using such a theory for a criterion, just how mature are college students as a group? Individually perhaps, the average student will "live and let live." Universities are such a potpourri of personalities that

no person could satisfactorily exist within them, without accepting to some extent a theory of relative values.

But as a group, or as a mob, college students make little allowance for differing opinions. Such prejudices have been obvious in the violent verbal battles that have come from campus politics, in the ungracious student acceptance of the newly-imposed social dating code, in the freshman riots frequently staged during customs periods, and in the student vandalism that has touched the University.

Such attitudes are usually tagged "school spirit." Perhaps they might better be called an irrational intolerance of authority and new ideas.

College is definitely the place and the time to learn... but students need to learn how to learn. Trial and error is an unforgettable method. "It is human nature," we are told, "to want to find out for yourself." But perhaps we humans could invent some of our own nature. It's rather an unnecessary waste constantly to employ trial and error to the exclusion of advice and suggestion.

The four years spent in college are a world apart from life lived at home. But these are four short years, and the line is narrow between May, when one is a senior, and June, when one becomes a number-one community citizen. What one does, how he thinks and acts at the University, is almost a standard way of judging what one will continue doing as a college graduate. So be it.

## Walker Promoted

Philip L. Walker Jr., assistant professor of fuel technology, has been named associate professor and head of the Department of Fuel Technology.

The appointment was approved at the weekend meeting of the Board of Trustees.

## Tonight on WDFM

- 7:30 Standby
- 8:00 BBC Features
- 8:30 St. Paul's Cathedral
- 8:45 Broadway in Review
- 9:00 Call Card, "Tell-Tale Heart," Poe
- 9:15 House Party
- 9:30 News
- 9:30 Light Classical Jukebox
- 10:30 Sign Off