

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.

DIEHL, McKALIP, Editor

FRANK CRESSMAN, Business Mgr.

**STAFF THIS ISSUE:** Night Editor, Dottie Stone; Copy Editors, Nancy Fortna, Mike Miller; Assistants, Fran Fanucci, Cynthia Bell, Joe Cheddar, Ginny Phillips; Ad Staff, Faye Goldstein, Dianne Soltis, Liz Kreabel.

## New Registration System Does Work

Registration for spring semester classes beginning Feb. 2 will be done in the same manner as in September. This means that all four classes will register at the same time in alphabetical order.

Last week at the meeting of All-University Cabinet this was the subject of considerable discussion. The feeling was expressed that this system is unfair to seniors, possibly closing a course to them because it was already filled with students, many of them underclassmen. It was also stated that the seniors should have first choice not only of courses but of sections.

Dean of Admissions C. O. Williams has answered that point by saying what exists is a fear rather than a reality. He has admitted it is entirely feasible this could happen but it has not. Surveys taken among registration personnel, college deans, and department heads during and since the registration period show all but a handful of seniors got the courses and sections they wanted.

Dean Williams' staff has set up a plan which allows those few seniors who are having trouble to fit in the courses they want. This is accomplished by closing the sections while a few seats actually remain so the latter may be used to accommodate the seniors that must

have the course. If the student must have the course and it is closed, a note from his college dean's representative will cause him to be sandwiched in at all costs.

The system employed today is the result of over five years of steady experimentation and change. It is the simplest method of handling the 12,000 students the University must register each semester. In the bargain, it seems an overwhelming majority of the students are not troubled by the plan.

Some members of the student body, the seniors in particular, have indicated they think this plan is unfair. It is one of the best systems in the country, however, as indicated by the fact that several other schools had observers studying the fall registration. If the plan is worked with for another semester, the bugs left can be removed and the feeling that the inalienable rights of seniors are being violated will vanish.

The system works, and the University has received no complaints that indicate a majority of any group of students are being inconvenienced by it. Thus, if students use the program properly and take advantage of the special provisions made for seniors, the registration will be good for all.

## 'Who's in the News': Worthwhile Service

Since the selection of students to be honored by the booklet, "Who's in the News at Penn State", students have been asking a number of questions concerning the publication of such a booklet. Clarification of the purposes of the publication is greatly needed.

The first question usually asked is, "What kind of a racket is this publication—and if it isn't a racket, what is it?"

Essentially, "Who's in the News" is a publication with a two-fold purpose: a means of recognition for students and a service to both the faculty and student body. The sponsoring groups, Sigma Delta Chi and Theta Sigma Phi, men and women's journalism fraternities, received encouragement when the booklet was started in 1946 from Arthur R. Warnock, dean of men at the time, who is given credit for the idea of such a booklet.

Dean Warnock said of the publication, "Who's

Who in the News" (changed to "Who's in the News" in 1949) strikes me as being something much needed here and I certainly shall use it a lot."

The exact ways in which the booklet can be used are numerous. The faculty has used it frequently when recommending students for post-graduate employment. The department of public information makes use of the listed information for promotion of the University through press releases to participating students' hometown newspapers. And students themselves use the booklets for recommendations, both for jobs and qualifications for other campus activities.

A number of points of service to Penn State were cited by the Daily Collegian editor in 1946-47.

1. "Recognition to a large number of outstanding students at the University, since we no longer participate in 'Who's Who in American Colleges and Universities.' Participation in the latter had been withdrawn that year as well as this year.

2. State-wide recognition for Penn State students since copies are to be sent to all leading newspapers in the Commonwealth, leading colleges and universities in the state, and to some of the major institutions of higher learning in the nation.

3. Distribution of free copies to all fraternities and sororities (which can be used for rushing purposes and for their chapter histories) and to all department heads and administration offices.

4. And probably the most commendable reason offered—that it would not hurt to stop long enough to recognize the outstanding students on campus.

The book is thus to be a service and not a "money-maker." Which brings up the question, "Isn't \$2.50 a great deal to pay?"

The amount is not very much when one applies it to printing costs. The booklet carries no advertisements, in order to steer clear of commercialism. The price per participant is a portion of the estimated printing cost. It has been set high enough to cover costs even if a number of these students invited to enter their names should refuse.

In the event that a surplus remains after printing costs are met, the money is used by Sigma Delta Chi in other campus projects.

Actually, the fee for participation, while much lower, is somewhat on the same principle as paying for membership in a hat society. While it guarantees no rapid rise to fame, it nevertheless says congratulations to students for the service they've given the University.

—Mary Bolich.

## Safety Valve—

### Thank You --

TO THE EDITOR: When the Regional Conference of the Association of Student Unions was held on our campus last weekend, it was necessary to call on the Beta Theta Pi, Phi Delta Theta, Phi Gamma Delta, Sigma Chi, Sigma Nu, and Alpha Zeta fraternities for assistance.

In the traditional manner of Penn State fraternities, they gave generously of their time and facilities. Since many of the fine things done by fraternities are often overlooked or taken for granted, I will appreciate your calling this latest good deed of the fraternities to the attention of your readers.

—George L. Donovan  
Mgr. Dept. of Associated Student Activities and Student Union

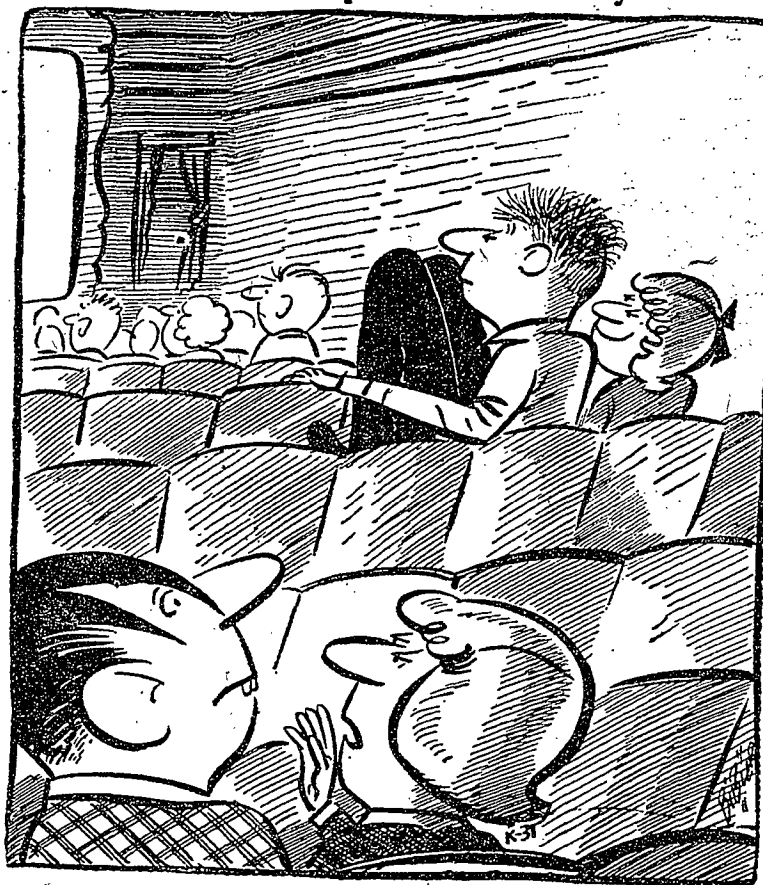
## Gazette...

Today  
ACCOUNTING CLUB, 7 p.m., 418 Old Main  
DAILY COLLEGIAN EDITORIAL CANDIDATES, 7 p.m., 1 Carnegie  
FROTH AD STAFF, 8:30 p.m., Froth Office, Carnegie  
GEOPHYSICS SOCIETY, 7:30 p.m., Mineral Science Auditorium  
MOVIE, "The Outlaw," 7 to 9 p.m., 119 Osmond  
RADIO GUILD, 7:30 p.m., 312 Sparks  
STUDENT EMPLOYMENT  
Students interested in working in Altoona during Christmas vacation may apply at Student Employment, Old Main.

UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL  
Richard Eldredge, Thomas Eyrard, Sam Glick, Janice Karp, William Kotlensky, Vladimir Lechmanik, Sue Levy, Arthur Miller, Irvin Reichley, Willard Robb.

## Little Man on Campus

By Bibler



"I see Freda finally got a date with her basketball player."

## Marcie Beaucoup

By MARCIE MacDONALD

Every year about this time, a few isolated cynics begin to cast accusations of commercialization into the Christmas atmosphere. They scoff at the lights along College avenue; they say Christmas only serves as a convenience for merchants. They complain because stores begin to advertise gifts right after or before Thanksgiving; in general, they just don't like the Christmas season any more. "It didn't used to be this way" is their hue and cry.

These poor people seem to miss the point of Christmas entirely. Who in their wildest imaginings could or would commercialize the religious significance of Christmas? And yet this is the strongest feeling in the air at Christmas-time. From this stems the custom of giving; even the smallest child can tell you why we give presents to each other at Christmas.

Our unhappy cynics go on to berate the Santa Claus myth. A kindly myth it is, at least, and a lot less harmful than bogey-men myths that last all year around. Is there really any harm in make-believe?

In the college community especially it seems the true spirit of Christmas is carried on without a thought of commercialism. Sororities and fraternities carry on truly wonderful projects for the benefit of less fortunate people. Students spend time and great patience decorating dormitory windows, just for the enjoyment of the people who pass by in the snowy streets.

Literally hundreds of students and townspeople crowd Schwab auditorium for the annual candle light service, not once, but twice. Not so amazing until you consider that the first service comes right smack in the middle

of the lived-for Saturday night, the evening of evenings around here.

And who can shout "commercialism" at the ever-growing trend toward make-it-yourself gifts? Or firemen who spend most of their time when not on call fixing the lights on the Christmas tree and along the sides of College avenue? Or the carols wafting from the Methodist Church at sundown? Who wants to?



Marcie MacDonald

## Engineering Group Initiates 12 Students

Twelve students have been initiated into the Epsilon chapter of Eta Kappa Nu electrical engineering honorary society.

The new members are Clark Fiester, Fred Scheihing, John Phillips Jr., Theodore Gerus, Bruce Lutton, Malcolm Stark, John Steckert, Keith Harringer, William Winters, Earl Blatt Jr., Jack Bastian, and Walter Welz Jr.

Eta Kappa Nu is sponsoring free tutoring service from 7 to 9 p.m. every Wednesday night in 2 Electrical Engineering.

## Tonight on WDFM

91.1 MEGACYCLES  
7:25 Sign On  
7:30 Adventures in Research  
7:45 As You Believe  
8:00 Special Event: Twenty-first Annual Interscholastic Debate with Oxford University  
9:00 Guest Star—Mary Healy and Peter Hays  
9:15 News  
9:30 Symphonic Notebook  
10:30 Sign Off

**Complete Laundry and Dry Cleaning Service**  
High Quality  
2-Day Service  
**REED'S**  
Laundry and Cleaners  
Established in 1912  
109 S. Pugh St.  
Phone AD 8-8981

Room reservations for June graduation will be accepted starting at 8:00 a.m. on December 10th. Must be in writing and only 1 room per graduating senior  
*The Nittany Lion Inn*

**Advice from St. Nick:**  
"Dress up your Christmas presents with the fanciest wrappings you can find"  
**GET XMAS WRAPPINGS AT THE BX**  
Gay Ribbons ..... 15c a roll  
green, red, or blue ..... 2 for 25c  
Scotch Tape in Xmas Designs ..... 25c  
Xmas Seals ..... 10c a box  
In the TUB Open 8:30-4:30  
**PENN STATE BOOK EXCHANGE**