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The Daily Collegian

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UMT: What It Means to Nation's Youth

(This is the first of two articles about Universal Military Training based on arguments for and against the program gathered from the New York Times and Scholastic Magazine. Tomorrow's article will give arguments against UMT.)

The latest in a series of military training and reserve forces plans will be submitted by the Defense Department to Congress sometime this month. The plan, which if accepted will be the nearest approach to universal military training, will require a limited number of men under 19 to serve a minimum length of time, either through enlistment or induction, in one of the armed forces.

Under the plan, those youths who don't serve two years in active service will be required to undergo six months of military training followed by nine and one-half years of compulsory service in the reserve forces.

The most important single reason proposed by those in favor of universal military training is that of national security. This country must, it is claimed, have a permanent reservoir of trained manpower or it may be caught short in event of a national emergency. Under the present system of training manpower, the United States would have to call up more than three men from civilian life for every one in uniform in case of emergency.

It now takes a full year, proponents say, to get the National Guard or organized reserve divisions into battle condition, and it would take even longer if training were to start from scratch. National security training divisions could accomplish such training in only four months.

A second important aspect of UMT would lie in a certain fairness to Korean veterans, supporters claim. As present laws stand now, these veterans are required to continue in the reserve forces for six years following their two completed years of active service. This means that all veterans, including ones who have married and settled down to steady jobs, would be immediately called back into service in an emergency.

Under present mental and physical standards many who are now escaping service because they are unfit for combat duty would, under UMT, be capable of driving a truck or pecking at a typewriter for the armed forces, supporters point out.

In case of a sudden attack upon American cities, those in the reserve forces under the UMT plan would represent the most meaningful and important hope for an efficient civil defense organization competent to deal with the attack, it is claimed. Too, if the United States possesses such a large reserve, any potential aggressor may think more than twice before attacking.

Economy is another important consideration, they say, since the nation can't afford indefinitely to support a standing force of several million men. Therefore, in order to cut costs without impairing national security a large ready reserve of troops available for instant call is the only feasible thing.

A final reason for UMT concerns the men who will be most affected by it. Proponents say that UMT would provide for the fulfillment of their military duty at a time that will least entail the disruption of their civilian life.

—Ted Serrill

Safety Valve...

More Beards---

TO THE EDITOR: ... Instead of hurting the ROTC program, I believe that giving permission to grow beards will actually strengthen it. The ... (ROTC departments) will have a strong example to show that the program is flexible and will go at least halfway to meet their (student) desires. We in ROTC can do something in return such as, for example, writing an essay on the benefits the Corps would receive by allowing beards.

Exceptions have been made to every rule so why couldn't one be made this time? It'll be the only one (on beards) that we will ask for in 100 years.

•Letter cut

—Bill Kleinbauer

TO THE EDITOR: We want beards, too! If for no other reason than to prove Penn State still has some remnants of real school spirit, please men, grow beards!

Just what does Miss Name Withheld mean by maturity? We think the maturity of Penn State men will be proved when they recognize the need for bringing the Centennial to the attention of others through the beard-raising contest.

—Mayland Darlington
Liz Trend
Joan Hopf
Debbie Hibbs

•Letter cut

On Culture Conflicts

TO THE EDITOR: Regarding the struggle for culture discussed in a recent issue of the Daily Collegian (Jan. 7) I agree that Penn State is lacking when it comes to consideration of matters of a cultural nature. The conflicts between events listed as cultural and events not generally considered cultural are great. When a decision between these two must be made, culture usually takes a back seat. However, it is really sad when there are conflicts between two events, both aimed at broadening our culture.

For instance, last month the State College Choral Society brought the Quartetto Italiano to State College the same night Community Forum presented Agnes Moorhead. Holders of tickets to both series, and I'm sure there were a goodly number, had to make a choice. Ob-

viously, neither event was as well attended as it might have been.

I realize this was probably an unavoidable accident; I'm sure all concerned regretted it, for these organizations are certainly conscientious in their efforts in bringing outstanding performances to State College. This is not to say that these efforts are not greatly appreciated. Nevertheless, such a conflict is most unfortunate and if culture's struggle is to be made easier, such situations must be eliminated.

—Robert Steele

Bad Sports?

TO THE EDITOR: We as students have a long way to go to further this ideal (of prestige and national recognition). I am speaking mainly of poor sportsmanship. At last Saturday night's basketball game, with a team that has never been here before, we students put on a poor exhibition. Should we boo a player who is playing the game to win—one who plays hard as every player should?

Arnelle went to this player and congratulated him on a fine game after he, Arnelle, had committed a technical foul against him earlier in the game. A fine gesture on the part of Jesse. We should be as fair. Let's give all visiting teams a break, and show them we are as fair as sportsmen anywhere in the nation.

—Rex Bradley

Gazette...

Today
BELLES LETTRES CLUB, 7:30 p.m., N. E. lounge Atherton
AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR ENGINEERING EDUCATION,
SOCIETY FOR INDUSTRIAL AND APPLIED MATHE-
MATICS JOINT MEETING, 7:30 p.m., 218 Electrical
Engineering
CHRISTIAN SCIENCE ORGANIZATION, 6:45 p.m., 304
Old Main
COLLEGIAN AD STAFF, 6:30 p.m., 9 Carnegie
COLLEGIAN BUSINESS STAFF, 6:45 p.m., Collegian
Business Office
ENGINEERING STUDENT COUNCIL, 7 p.m., 107 Main
Engineering
FRESHMAN COUNCIL, 6:30 p.m., commuter's room of
Women's Building
FROTH ART STAFF AND CANDIDATES, 7:30 p.m., Froth
Office
JUDICIAL, 7:30 p.m., WSGA room, White Hall
PSYCHOLOGY CLUB, 7:30 p.m., Psychology Laboratories
Building
UCA RECREATION COMMITTEE, 6:30 p.m., TUB
UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL
William Achenbach, Janet Bellen, Thomas Davis, Martin
Dell, Charles Freed, Jeannette Kohl, John Kuntz, Harriet
Learn, Gwen Neiditch, Eve Parnis, Myrna Paynter, Ronald
Raney, Willis Thompson, John Sorrian, and Bessie Zaznis.

Little Man on Campus

By Bibler



The pencil sharpener seems harder to crank since Professor Snarf moved it up front.

January's

Impressions

By DIEHL McKALIP

THEY'RE SAYING—

Talk about campus has it the Penn State soccer team, which went undefeated in 1954, has been extended an invitation to play in the Soccer Bowl in San Francisco in February. So far Recreation Hall sources, notably Ernest B. McCoy, dean of the College of Physical Education and Athletics, have kept mum.

Members of the soccer squad are definitely for the trip, but there may be two snags in the path. First is a matter of the cost of the excursion and second is the unofficial status of the bowl.

The bowl is not under the sponsorship of the National Collegiate Athletic Association or approved by it. Rather it is run by a group of West Coast businessmen. The local soccer men do not want to run the risk of bringing down the wrath of the NCAA by competing. Indications are the financial problem is not as great and the University fathers favor the trip as an addition to the Centennial Year celebration. Team members also speak of the method used when the Temple team went two years ago; players paid for some of their own meals and students pitched into a kitty to help them.

MORE BEARDS
Exhausted as this topic is getting, it seems necessary to point out a few facts about the beard-growing situation at Penn State. First, however, let us say it is a fine idea and those who have so far boosted the program deserve congratulations for their school spirit.

Concerning a University-wide beard-growing contest, it seems rather impossible for All-University Cabinet to sponsor such an event. This is because Cabinet is financed by a fee collected from all students and the money must also be spent in such a way as to work for all students.

Such would not be the case if Cabinet sponsored the contest because many cannot compete for the prizes. You must discount all women, almost all freshman and sophomore men because of ROTC, many junior and senior men because of ROTC, many senior men because of job interviews, plus those with personal reasons. These

take the lion's share of 12,000 students.

The only answer seems to be for some organization which draws all or part of its funds from another source to put up the incentives. It is still a good idea and nicely waxed mustaches are in order for the ROTC.

ANOTHER DOG—
Added to the many-times lost Blivit, we have Diesel, the combination dog of Delta Sigma Lambda, who was named after the fraternity letters, DSL.

The members say he is the son of a collie mother and a careless father.

PERSONALITY—
An official in Old Main was overheard to remark, "WHAT'S THE HUB-BUB IN THE HUB, BUB!"

McGeary Given Leave To Work on Project

Dr. M. Nelson McGeary, professor of political science, has been granted a leave of absence for the spring semester to work on a research project on the life of Gifford Pinchot, twice governor of Pennsylvania.

The American Philosophical Society has provided \$1000 in support of the project.

BusAd Council to Meet

The Business Administration Student Council will meet at 7 tonight in 107 Willard.

Tonight on WDFM

91.1 MEGACYCLES
7:25 _____ Sign On
7:30 _____ Scott Unabridged
8:00 _____ Behind the Lectern
8:00 _____ 'Dr. E. Hons Carter'
8:30 _____ Music of the People
9:00 _____ Informally Yours
9:15 _____ News
9:30 _____ This World of Music
10:30 _____ Thought for the Day

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