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# The Daily Collegian

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## UMT: What It Means to Nation's Youth

(This is the last of two articles on Universal Military Training. Information here was taken from the New York Times and Scholastic Magazine. Yesterday's article gave arguments favoring UMT.)

First and most important of arguments against Universal Military Training is that the training of many thousands of 18-year-olds for a six-month period every year would be highly impractical because of the increasing complexity of modern warfare. What a trainee learns this year might be largely useless in two or three years, necessitating his training all over again in an emergency.

A second argument concerns the various types of dangers which might result from the proposed UMT program. Since most 18-year-olds are claimed very impressionable, it would be bad to put them under military discipline at the time they should be learning to think for themselves. The danger exists, it is argued, that UMT may make robots out of trainees when they become used to direction and begin to depend on it. The Army, too, is a great catch-all which inevitably will affect trainees' moral development, it is argued.

Along with possible dangers to individuals, some dangers to America are put forth by UMT opponents. They fear that UMT will further an already apparent trend toward an increasing influence of the Armed Forces in American life. It might help lead, they say, to complete military control of our national affairs.

Also, just the existence of a UMT program will lure the country into a false sense of security leading to a neglect of other essential lines of national defense. It is also claimed that UMT will have an adverse affect on the

economic life of the country by the withdrawal of several hundred thousand teen-agers from the nation's labor force for six months.

Education, too, will be affected by UMT, it is claimed. A mass withdrawal of 18-year-olds once a year will interrupt college plans and when the training period is over, much of the desire to go on to college will have been lost. It is suggested that the minds of these young men will be dulled, that their habits of study will be diverted, and general college work will be more difficult than ordinarily it would have been.

On the international scene, opponents of UMT claim that such a plan would be like telling the world that the United States no longer expects or believes in peace and that, under cultivation of communist propaganda, it is an imperialistic power, seeking domination and war.

Economy is the third major question raised by opponents to UMT. A plan of this type wouldn't save the nation much money—the draft, although slowly being cut, will continue and money must be spent for lengthy refresher training in event of an emergency. Also, they argue, since it will be a multi-year program and will continue to grow, more and more expenses will be spent on pay, allowances for dependents, subsidies for education, plus equipment such as arms and ships for transport, if realistic training is to be offered. Many persons feel that such added expenses could be spent toward furthering public health, education, and scientific research.

The question has also been posed whether the proposed six months training will be a sufficient amount of time to mold teen-agers into soldiers.

—Ted Serrill

## Youngsters and Ice

Youngsters in the State College area should be allowed to enjoy the new ice skating rink as often as possible. But, this enjoyment should not be at too great a risk.

Youngsters under high school age should not be permitted to skate at the same times students are skating. The only exception to this ruling should be those times when the number of student skaters can definitely be predicted to be low. Sunday afternoons are not such times.

Sunday afternoons the rink is crowded with students, faculty, townspeople—and youngsters.

A large number of youngsters, not even waist-high to the average student, are just learning to skate. They stop and start unexpectedly, they fall, and they get in the way of students who may not be too handy on skates themselves.

No serious skating accidents have taken place yet. But there is a grave possibility that sometime in the future one of the three or four-year-old skaters will fall in front of a husky six-foot student who can't get out of the child's way and will fall on top of him. This may sound absurd, but anyone who frequents the rink while youngsters are skating realizes how very possible such a situation is.

"An ounce of prevention . . ." a revision of the times at which the rink is open to youngsters, will help both the youngsters and students to more safely enjoy the rink's facilities.

—Ann Leh

## Gazette . . .

Today  
CHESS CLUB, 7 p.m., Sparks  
FIELD AND STREAM DIVISION OF PENN STATE  
OUTING CLUB, 7:30 p.m., 317 Willard  
MARKETING CLUB, 7:30 p.m., Zeta Beta Tau  
NEWMAN CLUB, DAILY ROSARY, 4:30 p.m., NOVENA.  
7:30 p.m., Our Lady of Victory Church  
PRE-VET CLUB, 7 p.m., 109 Agriculture  
UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL  
William Achenbach, Raoul Casciari, Dorothea Cassel,

## Safety Valve— Clarifies Proposal

TO THE EDITOR: In both the story printed following last Wednesday's All-University Elections Committee meeting and the editorial Friday, a few additions should be made to more nearly represent the proceedings.

First Mr. Famous specifically stated that the change of penalties for violation of the elections code was not his idea and that he neither supported nor opposed it, but was merely passing on to the committee a proposal made to him by someone else. This was not made clear in either the report or the editorial.

Secondly, my proposal was quite changed by a faulty explanation. I proposed a compromise between the two alternatives of docking all candidates votes for an infraction, or fining the party a specified amount of money and in his way not directly affecting the candidates.

My proposal was that in case of an infraction the offending political party be fined an amount of money to be decided by the Elections Committee to correspond with the severity of the violation and, in addition to this, if the violation were due to the conduct of one particular candidate or his representatives, that he be docked a number of votes to be decided upon by the committee . . .

Letter Cut

—Has Simm

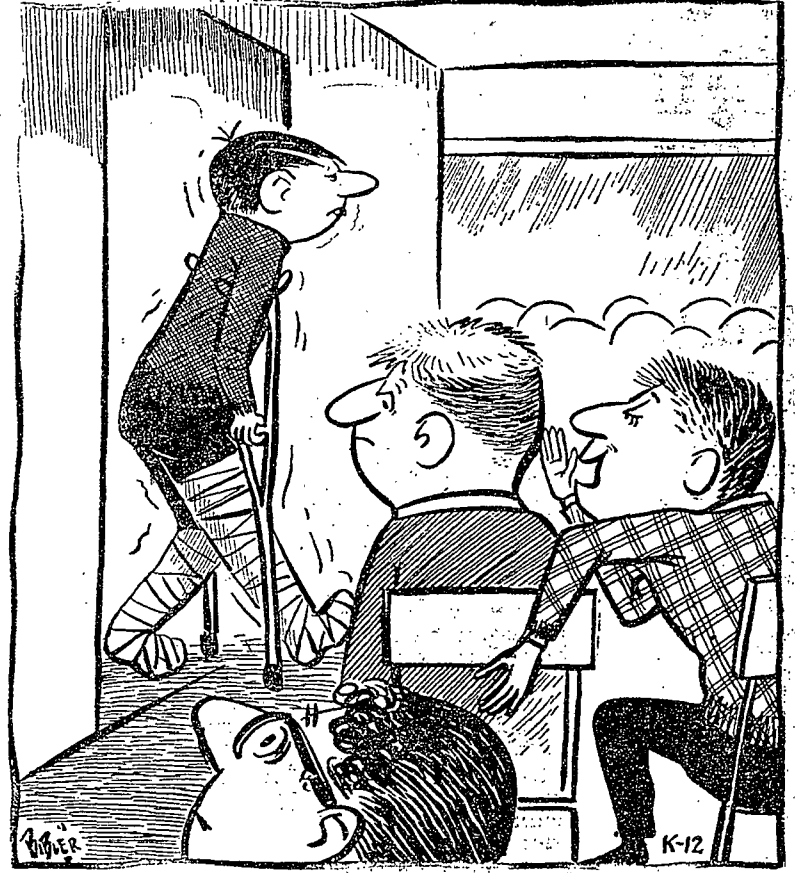
A little philosophy inclineth a man's mind to atheism, but depth in philosophy bringeth men's minds about to religion.—Francis Bacon

It matters not what you are thought to be, but what you are.—Syrus

Thomas Davis, Francine Fineman, John Haslan, Charlotte Klippel, Winifred Kushay, John Kuntz, Harriet Learn, Jules Levine, Gwen Neiditch, Arthur O'Connor, Joan Rapoport, John Serrian, William Serrian, William Fehr, Elizabeth Savidge.

## Little Man on Campus

By Bibler



"You know how fast he jumps into bed—well, last night we short-sheeted him."

## Third Time's a Charm

# Adam's Other Rib

By PEGGY McCLAIN

The idea of a campus third party gets dragged over the coals at least once before almost every elections campaign. This fall the idea was circulated twice before the campaign for freshman and sophomore class officers—the "almost" Nittany party encouraged by John Lyon and the brief University party, initiated by Rudy Lutter.

Snack Bar rumor and the like has it that campus politicians are now considering a third attempt at starting a new party. Interestingly enough, plans are more secretive than vague this time, and show some signs of being successful.

The question comes up, though, of what would make a third party successful on campus; and the answer always boils down to the chief prerequisite that there be a need for a third party and that potential clique members recognize this need.

Take for instance the previous attempt to form the Nittany party in September. After one clique meeting, Mr. Lyon said he would discontinue his efforts for a third party because he had received support from some freshmen only. It's hard to say what motivated these frosh to attend one clique meeting, or Mr. Lyon to hold it in the first place. But obviously, none were so thoroughly convinced of a need for an addition to campus politics that they could inject their enthusiasm into many students.

Again, take the instance of Mr. Lutter's University party in October. A multitude of campus politicians were supposedly linked with this attempt, but it too got no further than the first clique meeting, because it did not have strong enough support from the students.

This is not to say that successful third parties are impossible to create. Both the present parties are results of such revolutionary

movements. In the spring semester of 1947 State Party replaced the Campus Key party, which died after taking only one seat in the 1946 elections. State party became so strong that year it left its opponents, the Nittany Independents, out in the cold. The next year Lion party pushed out the Nittany Independents. It made a weak entrance, but evidently its need was felt because it grew into its present role in campus politics.

However, the success of these two movements cannot be considered complete indication of success for a third party at this stage of the game. At that time, in the 1940's, student voters could not split their votes between parties. Until Lion and State took over, it was a straight ticket, either C-K or N-I. This factor alone created a need for some new blood.

At present there seems little need for a third party, as such, on campus. Even now the two parties have considerable trouble finding candidates to fill their slates. Because of the political set-up here, these candidates must

(Continued on page five)

## Tonight on WDFM

91.1 MEGACYCLES		
7:25	Sign On	
7:30	Sports Roundup	
7:35	Stand-by	
8:00	Open to Question	
8:30	Masterworks from France	
9:00	Call Card "The Informer"	
9:15	News	
9:30	Light Classical Jukebox	
10:30	Thought for the Day	

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