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# The Daily Collegian

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## What Value Is FMA to Fraternities?

(This is the first of two editorials explaining the workings of FMA.)  
Any fraternity man will readily admit that food is the biggest expense in his house bill. And we doubt if anyone would object to lowering these prices.

There is a way this can be accomplished—through the Fraternity Marketing Association. Yet only 26 of the University's 53 fraternities are participating.

**We wonder why.**  
Perhaps an explanation of FMA is in order. FMA is a cooperative buying program which coordinates the buying power of fraternities in order to reduce operating costs and house bills. Fraternities may buy meat, canned goods, potatoes, frozen foods, and furniture through FMA at current discounts of from 3 1/2 to 8 1/2 percent.

FMA operates in this way:  
Any fraternity wishing to become a member must petition the Board of Trustees of FMA for membership. When the fraternity is approved, it must pay a deposit of \$100 to FMA. This deposit works similar to a checking account and commodities which the fraternity buys are charged against the deposit.

At the end of each month, the fraternity must restore the amount of purchases to the deposit.

When it joins FMA, the fraternity must con-

tact to buy either 100 per cent of its meat or 100 per cent of its canned goods through FMA. It may buy both meat and canned goods.

At least three dealers are approved in each category so that the fraternity has a choice of dealers.

Orders for canned goods and potatoes are placed every Monday with FMA. These orders are forwarded to dealers. Meat orders are usually placed on a daily basis. Deliveries on canned goods are made on the Thursday following the placing of the order. Meat is delivered daily.

Furniture is ordered by first choosing the merchandise and placing a deposit with FMA equal to the cost less discount.

FMA bills each member once a month for canned goods and potatoes and twice monthly for meats and frozen foods. The bills are paid through FMA, which pays the dealers.

In order to maintain a part-time secretary and office facilities, fraternities are charged a service fee of 1 1/2 percent on each bill. Any excesses above the operating budget are returned to the fraternity at the end of the year.

FMA has been in operation only three years. In that time, its annual gross business has grown from \$18,000 to \$138,500. As more fraternities participate, the amount of business will rise, bringing even greater savings than at present.

—Don Shoemaker

## ODK: What Does It Involve?

(This is the first of two editorials about Omicron Delta Kappa, men's leadership honorary fraternity. Tomorrow's article will discuss what ODK would mean to the University.)

The statement that plans are being considered to bring Omicron Delta Kappa on campus has provoked a great deal of uncertainty among students about just what the organization is and what purpose it would serve to the University. According to Benjamin Sinclair, he and about 20 students have been studying the organization since September and plan to submit a constitution to the Senate Committee on Student Affairs next week.

In the meantime the nature and purpose of ODK need clarifying.

By definition, ODK is a national leadership honor society for men. Active membership for each chapter is broken down into three parts: a 60 per cent minimum of junior and senior men students; and not more than a 40 per cent membership by faculty members and alumni of the chapter.

The stated purpose of ODK is threefold: to recognize student leaders and inspire others to try for conspicuous attainments in campus activities; to bring together leaders in all phases of college life to help mold the sentiment of the university on questions of local and inter-collegiate interest; and to bring together students and faculty on a basis of mutual understanding and interest.

Program activities sponsored by the various chapters include such things as meetings for discussion of campus interests and problems; leadership conferences for student officers, committeemen and faculty advisors; freshman counseling programs and orientation; Home-

coming events; charity drives; and foreign student projects. Many of the programs are not actually sponsored by the chapter, but encouraged by it in cooperation with other groups. In short, the organization, by definition, attempts to translate values and ideals into campus activity rather than leave them as theories.

The national constitution of the organization lists "character" as the primary prerequisite for membership. Additional qualifications are scholarship and intelligence, service and leadership to the University, fellowship, and "consecration to democratic ideals."

Scholarship demands for membership require members to be ranked in the upper 35 per cent (among men) in the college of the University in which they are enrolled.

Members also must have attained distinction in at least one of five fields: scholarship, athletics, social and religious affairs, publications, and speech, music, and dramatic arts.

Constitutionally, new members may be elected either annually or semi-annually by the chapters; the number of men students initiated in any one year may not be more than three per cent of the total enrollment of men in the University that year. Essentially, election is by members' votes, with a specified number of "blackballs" (relative to the number of members) disqualifying a candidate if it is specified by the national organization that no candidate who is unquestionably eligible and publicly considered "shall be barred for personal reasons or because of campus politics."

Included in the list of schools somewhat comparable in size to the University and having chapters of ODK are Florida State University, George Washington University, Iowa State University, and the University of Pittsburgh.

—Peggy McClain

## Borough Streets: Canals of Venice??

February thaws, hurried drivers, and local street conditions are combining to make life miserable for the unfortunate pedestrians who venture out. The chances are better than fifty-fifty that the walker will come home spattered the length of his street-side or at least have a shoe full of muddy water.

The situation has been created by the past few days of extremely warm weather—for February—plus the local drivers and streets. Bright sun has melted the drifts of snow and caused torrents of water to stream through the streets and gather in pools at the gutters.

Little can be done about the snow and the sun. They are part of unchanging nature. In fact, we doubt students would want cloudy days again after enjoying yesterday's warmth.

Something, on the other hand, can be done about the drivers and the streets. The drivers can change their ways immediately. All we ask is that they take it easy when traveling through State College's inundated streets and thus not splash those traveling on the sidewalks.

Easy driving, however, is not the answer to the borough's continuing problem of streets running full with water and sidewalks with ankle-deep puddles. The answer here is an extensive reconstruction program which should be started immediately.

Town-talk has it that plans are now being made to do something about the gutters in that direction seems to be taking place on Locust Lane where the trees are being cut down. This is the proper move and we urge that the Borough Council strain its budget to the utmost to

carry this campaign throughout State College. Conditions as they are now are not only dangerous safety-wise, but they are also a big eyesore in an otherwise attractive community. The complete lack of modern drainage facilities in some streets and the inadequate systems in others cause surface water to collect there throughout the year.

This is bad. In winter snow packs and ice forms, making the already too narrow passageways drivers' nightmares. In the spring and fall, rains and thaws leave the streets running with water to be splashed on walkers and flood cross-walks. In the summer, showers fill pools which stand stagnant and stinking as they evaporate.

There seems no reason why a borough supposedly as advanced as State College should not accelerate the job of providing proper streets for its citizenry. Even with the financial burden it will incur, it should be done because it must be done. Until then, drive slowly.

## Gazette...

Today  
NEWMAN CLUB, Daily Rosary, 4:30 p.m., Our Lady of Victory Church

UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL  
Rosemary Bass, Edwin Biederman, Camella Blount, Eleanor Brenner, Hugh Browne, Stephen Caplin, Marvin Daley, William Detterer, George Dishong, William Fabis, Elisabeth Funk, Robert Galloway, James Griffiths, Barbara Grubawicz, Eugene Hanlon, Thomas Larsen, Bror Larson, Virginia Leary, Maurine Leonard, Katherine Mitchell, Jackie Mulcey, Russel Myers, Mary Neil, Oliver Sax, Barry Schriever, Richard Solomon, James Sharnbach, Donald Shaw, Robert Stiltzer, William Strauss, Adolph Verolini, John Williams, Larry Young, George Sofia.

## Little Man on Campus

By Bibler



"I must tell a convincing story—I told him my father owned a big horse ranch."

### Criticism of the Moderns

# Singing In The Wilderness

By EDMUND REISS

"I've seen better things in a kindergarten class." "This looks like something my kid brother did, except these are people, and he was doing cows."

Such were the comments we heard while looking at the current art exhibit in Main Engineering. We looked at the picture under discussion, and were forced to admit that perhaps the laughing group gathered around it was pretty well accurate in its implied criticism.

We waited there a while hoping that some member of the art faculty would come and explain the merit of the picture to us, but as none volunteered the service, we began thinking over the matter.

Any artist, whether painter, writer, or musician—must communicate to his audience. This is a fundamental requirement, and if a work does not communicate, it has no purpose, no value and cannot be termed a work of art. The critics of the cow-like people picture realized this, and since it did not communicate to them, they could not appreciate it.

Any sort of experimental art, whether modern painting, free verse, or allegorical symbolism, is fine so long as it is sincere, but we are afraid that too many supposed works of art are artificial and not sincere. It is not rare at all to find a creator thinking that by being vague and confusing, people would rate his work highly since they could not understand it. When one creator copies (or to use the nice term, "is influenced by") the form or style of another's work; he is taking only the idea but perhaps does not have the capabilities to use this form in a meritorious manner (a common happening).

When several writers of today take the "instress" and shortened words of Hopkins or the "stream of consciousness" of Sterne and Joyce, they might try to use these to the best of their abilities. Still the form is not enough, for what a writer says cannot be limited or governed by it. If it is, the word is usually not very good.

Similarly, if a painter looks at one of Jackson Pollock's successful creations (these are the things that look as if a bucket of paint was spilled on a canvas and all the artist did was spread out the paint into streaks) and then decides to do a similar thing himself, he is offended if his work is not well-received and further the viewer is ashamed if he cannot truly appreciate it.

Rather the case oftentimes should be that the viewer should feel insulted that someone has tried to pull the wool over his

eyes, and the artist should be ashamed of himself for trying to use fraud to make himself successful.

Certainly, the public is often wrong in its appraisal of the worth of a work of art. It must be realized that something does not have to convey a picture or story to be good. There is such a thing as feeling or mood to be found in art, but when this feeling or mood seems too forced or when it seems contrived or artificial, we may justly feel insulted.

The only way to be able to judge paintings is to look at many of them, and then on a comparative basis decide whether one artist achieved a better result than another artist using a similar style.

The artist certainly is not always right, and the public is far from being always wrong.

## Forms Ready For Draft Test

Applications are now available in the dean of men's office for the April draft test.

In order to be eligible to take the test, a male student must be a selective service registrant who intends to request occupational deferment as a student. He must be satisfactorily pursuing a full-time college course, undergraduate or graduate, or leading to a degree, and he must not previously have taken the test.

Scores on the test alone will not determine eligibility for deferment. They will be used by the selective service local boards in considering the eligibility of registrants for deferment.

The test will be given April 21 at the University. Applications must be postmarked no later than midnight March 7.

## Tonight on WDFM

8:15 MEGACYCLES  
7:35 Starlight Serenade  
8:00 News, Sports, Weather  
8:30 Scenario  
10:30 Thought for the Day