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The Daily Collegian

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DIEHL McKALIP, Editor

WILLIAM DEVERS, Business Manager

STAFF THIS ISSUE: Night Editor: Margie Blank; Copy Editors: Marnie Schenck, Rog Beidler; Assistants: Shirley Calkins, Jane Casselberry, Terry Leach, Ed Dubbs, Ginny Phillips, Gladys Woodward, Nancy May, Bill Eisenberg, Marilyn Zabusky.

Indies Give Up Rights by Their 'Silence'

Twelve students sat in a corridor in Old Main Thursday night and tried to preserve the independent student's voice. The operation was a failure. The patient wouldn't cooperate.

Some 5800 independents had an opportunity to have a say in next year's student government, but they refused to take it.

A long time ago, the All-University Elections Committee decided that the senior class president would be an independent man. The parties agreed to this.

Then they tried to find independents who would run. They found none.

On Tuesday night Bruce Lieske, a member of the Elections Committee, issued a statement, which appeared on page one of Wednesday's Daily Collegian, asking—practically begging— independent men to make themselves available for office.

All a sixth semester independent had to do was approach one of the three political party clique chairmen and say he would run. The nomination for senior class president would almost automatically be his. Candidates are that scarce. But, according to the party chairmen, none spoke up.

In Lieske's statement was a warning: Unless

they agreed to seek office, "the independents would forfeit their right to a senior class office." The independents remained silent.

Thursday night the 12 students—Election Committee members and party officials—tried desperately to figure out a way to save the senior class presidency, the rightful property of the independents, for them.

At the request of the parties, which must have full slates in order to appear on the ballot, the Elections Committee reluctantly took the position from the independents who didn't want it, and gave it to a fraternity man.

And, in that action, the independents lost a vote and a voice on All-University Cabinet.

Today independents have less right to try to do something about parking conditions or about dormitory food or to sponsor a heard contest or vote on a grading plan. They've lost part of this right because they've said to the world: "We're simply not interested." Their complaints mean little because they've shown they're not willing to do more than complain.

So today the independent has lost his voice because yesterday he refused to speak up.

—Mike Feinsilber

Wake Up, Town Men!

Student apathy has been condemned by student leaders for a long time but it approached its zenith at the Town Independent Men meeting Wednesday night.

Ten men attended the first meeting of the old organization with a new name and constitution.

It is understandable that to promote group spirit among men who are scattered all over the borough is extremely difficult. Many of these men live in town because they want privacy and aren't interested in any outside activity.

But it's time for these "hermits" to realize TIM is more than just an activity. Rather, it is a necessity—the organ that represents town men and exists of, by, and for the town independents.

Students are constantly complaining that nothing is ever done about their problems. And usually nothing is done because these same students rarely let their representatives know how they feel. The ten men who attended the TIM meeting could not possibly represent the feelings of the hundreds of men who live in town.

It's time the town men stop revolving around their own individual orbits, and support TIM. This is their University as much as anyone else's; it's time they took a part in it.

—Larry Jacobson

Paint Job: Bad Taste

Now that the Forestry Ball is safely completed and there is no danger of hurting its publicity program, we feel comment is needed on the "Paul Bunyan's footsteps" used in advertising it.

These footprints appeared over a week ago on all the walks leading up to Old Main and were tied in with the advice that you "should follow the giant steps to Old Main" where tickets were being sold. Since then rain and many footfalls have failed to erase the oversized green blotches.

Looking into the matter, there seems to be no rule against the practice and no desire to have one. If it is necessary, a rule can be made, but there's little point in burdening ourselves with multitudes of trivial statutes.

Painting the walks was in very poor taste and we are surprised the enthusiastic supporters of the dance publicity campaign did not think so, too. It would seem only good taste and common sense not to mess up the central part of the campus with unnecessary marks and scrawls.

The only other case which we can remember since we have been at the University occurred in an election campaign a few years ago. One of the campus political parties urged votes in large lettering on the steps in front of Old Main. The result was a penalty of several votes per candidate for poor electioneering tastes.

We do not propose a penalty on the promoters of the Forestry Ball nor do we propose a rule and penalty be set up for any future campus paint job. We do, however, appeal to the better judgment of future publicity agents to use good taste in conducting their campaigns and particularly not to smear up the main campus with any semi-permanent "art work".

Gazette...

Today
NEWMAN CLUB, Open House, 8 p.m., Student Center
Tomorrow
ALPHA DELTA SIGMA, 7:30 p.m., Lambda Chi Alpha
LOX AND BAGEL BRUNCH, 10:30 a.m., Hillier Foundation
NEWMAN CLUB, Roller skating party, 2 p.m., Old Main;
Devotions, 7 p.m., Our Lady of Victory Church
OUTING CLUB, 2 p.m., rear of Old Main

Safety Valve—

On Medea—

TO THE EDITOR: . . . I refer in particular to the review of the Robinson Jeffer's adaption of "Medea" (yesterday's Daily Collegian).

Perhaps if we are to be damned so severely by someone as obviously unprepared for the task as Mr. Beau-Seigneur appears to be, it might be advisable to at least inquire, before he treads upon unknown ground, just what it is we are trying to achieve. Does the reviewer understand the basic principal of theatricality? This was frankly theatrical treatment of "Medea" . . .

The scene is laid, not in sophisticated Hellenistic Greece, but in the violent colorful early era of Greece. It is in an outlying Corinthian area, not in the cultivated center, Athens.

One of the basic principles of acting is to know what you are talking about before you speak. If Mr. Beau-Seigneur defends himself with the fact he's offering helpful criticism, at least let him put forth sufficient effort to gain sufficient information to talk with even a small amount of authority.

Does the expression "laid a notable egg" make a suitable companion for the previous erudite observation of the reviewer? What critical value does the colloquialism have? . . . Would a statement like this basically help a genuinely conscientious actor? No!

When we attempt tragedy we are accused of going "above our heads." Are we to present only "Springtime for Patsy" and "Our Miss Brooks?"

If we have fallen short, we have tried; we are not Broadway . . .

If we are to be judged by the yardstick of Broadway, why doesn't the reviewer have the extensive and competent background of Joseph Wood Krutch or John Mason Brown?

• Letter Cut

—Jeannie Risler

Parties: Useless?

TO THE EDITOR: The announcement in yesterday's Daily Collegian concerning the inability of the campus political parties to obtain independent candidates is just a little short of being ridiculous.

If it is the purpose of the parties to seek out the best candidates, then by overlooking 75 per cent of the total male enrollment, they have failed miserably.

If all nominations are to be by open nomination of the clique, then the parties cannot possibly be sure there are no available independent candidates.

In short, where have they looked and how hard have they looked? The spectacle of frantic searching through a student directory for candidates is not particularly the smooth functioning of a political party. A precedent having been set, it then remains a question as to how far it will be carried in the future.

The present system at Penn State providing for a roughly equitable distribution among independents and fraternities has, up until this time, worked remarkably well. The political parties, by seeking to escape their obligations and simultaneously shift the blame to the Elections Committee, are playing a part in the destruction of this system.

If it is a question of "non-interest" or "student apathy" the excuse is too easily obtained. Perhaps the parties should attempt to have potential candidates petition, thus finding out just where the talent lies. Non-functioning parties in any political system are worse than useless.

—Robert Dennis

Little Man on Campus

By Bibler



"Let me warn you that anything you say may be held against you."

The Other Half

By ANN LEH

The freshman class is planning a Centennial dance, the sophomore class is planning a dance, probably with a Centennial theme, and the senior ball, most likely, will have a Centennial flavor. But no one here has been quite so ingenious as Stanford University's freshman class.

The Stanford frosh last night held their class dance, a pajama dance, with pj's and nightshirts required garb for all attending. The rather unique theme was chosen after preference questionnaires distributed in all freshman dorms.

And at Cornell University, the Independent Association held a New Year's Eve Party last week. The reason for the strange date for a New Year's Party . . . "so many parties are held on Dec. 31 that people can't really enjoy them."

Texas A and M expects to entertain some 1000 prospective freshmen at its annual High School and Sports Day soon. Some of the Aggies' ideas are well worth considering for the University's annual open house.

The administration takes care of welcoming the students and showing them a film about the school, each student council conducts tours of its facilities, and the Athletic Association sponsors swimming, baseball, golf, and tennis for afternoon relaxation. Hometown alumni clubs take charge of enlisting prospects to visit the campus and providing transportation for them. The only charge for the visitors is a 50-cent fee for eating in one of the dorm dining halls.

At the University of Utah the only two people who showed up for an important junior class meeting were the class president and the Utah Chronicle reporter. Commented the Billboard of Wilson College: "Sounds just like Wilson." Sounds almost like some other university around here, too.

The Lehigh Brown and White, in conducting a question and answer poll on why students chose engineering as a career, got the following answer:

"Having received a scholarship which practically prevented me from pursuing forestry at Penn State, I decided to take a crack at mechanical engineering at Lehigh rather than forfeit such an opportunity . . ."

Hmm, is the University giving out scholarships to keep 'em away?

Out of little BX's big student stores grow . . . From the sound of an ad in a recent issue of the Daily Bruin, the UCLA version of a BX is about twice the size of any borough store here. In addition to books, lab and art supplies, and the usual academic gear, the stock includes sweaters (cashmere and otherwise), slacks, baby's clothing, drugs, golf clubs (for sale or rent), and typewriters (ditto). What, not used cars on the side? Who knows, the class of 1966 may be saying—"You can get it at the BX."

What is the proper thing to say when, during rushing open houses, a completely "out-of-this-world" (Martian, maybe) female arrives at the door? Seven such creatures, wandering around during Cornell's sorority rush week, were greeted by "Come in, we've been expecting you," or "Are you a town girl?" and "Why, yes, you're one of our alumnae, aren't you?" It took quite a while at each house before the coeds realized their strange visitors were actually seven senior men in disguise.

Things are getting back to normal at Clarion State Teachers' College today. Twirp Week ended last night. The rules of Twirp (Continued on page five)

This Weekend On WDFM

M.J. MEGACYCLES

7:25	Sign On
7:30	Phil. Wein
8:15	BBC Feature
8:45	Just for Two
9:30	Hi-Fi Open House
10:30	Thought for the Day
Tomorrow	
7:25	Sign On
7:30	Third Program
10:30	Thought for the Day
Monday	
7:25	Sign On
7:30	One Night Stand
8:00	UN: Story
8:15	Top Drawer
8:30	Progressions in Rhythm
9:00	Spotlight on State
9:15	News
9:30	Symphonic Notebook
10:30	Thought for the Day

Now's the time to ask her to the . . .

AIM-LEONIDES SPRING DANCE

Friday, March 18, 8:30-12:00 p.m. TICKETS ON SALE AT STUDENT UNION DESK — INFORMAL — \$2.50 per Couple Music by Johnny Nicolosi