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# The Daily Collegian

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## Graduation Problem May Be Solved

Students expecting to receive degrees in June and University administrators charged with planning the commencement exercises have moved a step closer to a meeting of the minds. The possibility of holding ceremonies inside in case of extreme weather is being explored and "extreme" weather has been defined.

In a statement issued by Wilmer E. Kenworthy, director of student affairs, it was emphasized that plans are to hold ceremonies on Beaver Field. It states: "Only storm conditions would alter this plan. Inclement weather would not."

Conversation brought out that only a storm "like Hurricane Hazel" would drive the Centennial commencement off Beaver Field and on to the radio. In past years showers and even threats have started the move for an indoors graduation.

The statement continues by pointing out the difficulties which would be encountered in arranging an indoor alternate ceremony. It is possible Recreation Hall could not be arranged to hold all the candidates for degrees, two guests of each, Blue Band, press sections, radio and television personnel and equipment, and a number of special guests.

Immediate reactions are for students to ask if the exercises are not for them and therefore should not all but the speakers and the students and their guests be excluded. This is not the case. If a class wants a name speaker, the price

paid is that the event becomes a public rather than a private affair.

Where the President of the United States goes, so goes the press. The University, like the individual, has many friends who expect to be invited to the commencement exercises. This is the price.

Another item in the administration statement is that all available chairs and large amounts of equipment will be on the field in preparation for the outdoor ceremony, and it would involve hours of delay to load them and replace them in the building. Twelve-hundred folding chairs are to be on the field. The University is now contacting a rental service to see if it can supply those needed for an alternate ceremony in Rec Hall.

Finally, the statement reports, a considerable number of seniors have expressed the opinion they would not want to select two of their guests to go indoors and not be able to include the others. According to this, seniors want to brave the weather or switch to the radio. This is questionable—most would pick their parents. However, no poll has been made.

The determined attempt by the University to hold commencement exercises outdoors is commendable and certainly is necessary in this Centennial Year and in light of the speaker. With a prayer for good weather, we are nevertheless happy to see the University is still looking into an alternate indoor plan in case of "extreme" weather. The students do deserve a formal ceremony.

## Will It Work?

Today begins a three-day period of attempts to know, to understand, and to be friends. The Pan American Day celebrations begin at noon today.

The program looks like a good beginning toward integrating all the American students at the University. Two functions especially should promise a degree of success in fulfilling the purpose of the celebrations—the dinners to be given today for Latin American students by 24 fraternities and the informal dance in Waring Hall lounge Saturday night.

If students will take these two events seriously and give them support, they cannot help but produce a bit of the needed familiarity among American students.

The celebration is adorned, as such programs always are, with several projects which will no doubt go unnoticed by most students at the University. These are the Pan American exhibit to open in the Pattee Library today, and two radio broadcasts tonight of Pan American music.

While pictures and music admittedly lend themselves somewhat to understanding a culture, they can be considered only secondary to actual personal contacts for a successful integration program.

The Pan American Day committee has given students a good basis for getting acquainted with each other. But the committee by no means intends the next few days of celebrations as an immediate end to any promotion of good relations.

The entire purpose of the program will be defeated unless students—United States students and Latin American students—take advantage of these particular celebrations and carry what they learn there into their every day living.

The celebrations are a means to an end. It is up to all students at Penn State to make sure that end is at least attempted.

—Peggy McClain

## Fewer P. A. Blurbs

The Senate Committee on Student Affairs acted wisely in limiting the use of the mobile public address system to the hours of noon to 1 p.m. and after 5 p.m.

Groups using the loudspeaker to publicize their doings had much maligned the privilege and deserved to be restricted.

Not only were classes and offices disturbed by the use of the speaker after and before the ten-minute breaks, but those attending the public address seemed to feel it necessary to continually provide an odd sort of entertainment (for themselves).

An advertising campaign is supposed to win friends and patrons for the advertiser. It is not, to our knowledge, a media to broadcast greetings to one's friends at the expense of the majority's hearing. Nor do whispered conversations followed by gales of amplified laughter contribute to any legitimate promotion program.

Perhaps the groups using the public address system will benefit from the restrictions in the end. Now those in charge of the public address may be forced to adopt some sort of a script to guide their mouthings.

No one ever achieved any good will by aimless, inane blaring.

—Mike Miller

## Opportunity Knocks

Elections for student council representatives are just a little more than two weeks away. This means that students interested in seeing good academic programs either maintained or innovated in their particular colleges should be considering running for election to the councils.

Nominating oneself for a council involves very little work, energy, or initiative. Usually, it is just a matter of signing a list, posting a campaign poster at the polls, and waiting for the results.

However, this next year especially, student council representatives can make their jobs some of the most significant student projects at the University.

Re-accreditation is due here next year. This means the University is undertaking and is in the market for ideas and implementation of programs that will give the University the best academic standards possible.

The University needs the help the councils are capable of giving for an improved academic program. The councils, if taken seriously, can prove the lifeblood of this. They can, for instance, organize and promote tutoring systems, orientation programs, counseling services, and closer faculty-student relations.

Because each college has its own individual needs in these areas, the colleges must be the groups to determine and fulfill these needs. Unless students can say they are completely satisfied with the policies of their colleges, they have, in the coming elections, a wide-open chance to help create a "school of their choice."

—Peggy McClain

## Safety Valve— On Graduation---

**TO THE EDITOR:** We agree emphatically with your editorial of April 5 (Daily Collegian) on "Students Deserve Graduation Exercises." We also feel that the University should provide a graduation ceremony where the graduates should be present at all costs.

We have been presented with no valid reason why this cannot be done. Too much emphasis has been placed on the speaker and not enough on the graduates. If the personalized graduation cannot be arranged for any weather conditions another speaker should be obtained.

If the Penn State administration wants to promote so much good will during this Centennial Year, the traditional long-awaited graduation ceremony is not too much to ask for the prospective alumni and their parents.

—J. Kirk Garber  
John J. Robinson

## Gazette . . .

Today  
ACCOUNTING CLUB, 7 p.m., Sigma Alpha Epsilon  
COLLEGIAN BUSINESS STAFF, SENIOR BOARD, 6:30 p.m., 111 Carnegie  
FIELD AND STREAM DIVISION OF THE PENN STATE OUTING CLUB, 7:30 p.m., 317 Willard  
FROTH CIRCULATION, ALL BOARDS, 6:30 p.m., 247 Willard  
SIGMA ALPHA ETA, 7:30 p.m., 1 Sparks  
WSGA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, 6:30 p.m., Grange Playroom  
UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL  
Harold Hawley, Barry Pifer, John Sosenko.

## Little Man on Campus

By Bibler



"I'd better go in now, Worthal—I see the housemother got back."

## Marcie Beaucoup

By MARCIE MacDONALD

It's spring. Everything's blooming its fool head off. Birds are casting coy glances at each other, flying suggestively with bits of nest material in their beaks. La-de-dah and fa-la-la. The most important thing is that the pre-season exhibition games are over and the 1955 baseball season has begun.

Even the Senators had a full house for their inaugural encounter, but don't anybody dare say the people were just there to see Ike. He does have some natural ability, that boy would never make the big leagues. Not in baseball, anyway.

So anyhow, the kids in every town are going to school with their gloves over their bike handlebars dragging St. Louis Slugger bats along behind them. About ten windows in every elementary school in the country will be smashed by the middle of June. In one small rural school, the lady principal has stopped fighting it and it turns out she is a pretty okay umpire. Only thing is, she calls games for reasons the kids don't agree with entirely.

And in larger communities, all sizes and shapes of kids are turning out for Little League practice. The farm system seems to have extended right down into the kindergarten circuit, but this is probably a good thing. Some teams we know of might do better with a few Class Z players! But leave us mention no names.

What is it about baseball that attracts thousands of fans in one city and hardly any in another? Baltimore last year had a huge crowd of loyal followers who cheered just as loudly on the short end of a 10-2 game in the top of the ninth as they did when the bird boys were winning.

College baseball doesn't seem to draw crowds very well, and what's the explanation for that? It's the same game, played, at times, nearly as well. At its worst, baseball has more thrills than football at its worst. Well, some people think so. And at college games you can sit so close you can hear for yourself what it is that the catcher says to the pitcher when he strolls out for a word of counsel. Maybe not so spicy as a Berra epithet, but choice, nevertheless.

Locally, the Holmes field (what's left of it) sandlot and the West Dorms sandlot are producing some fancy batting practice and pitching exhibitions. And every once in a while, a coed answers the call of the hickory and joins in. Not necessarily phys ed majors, either. All kinds of people report to the dispensary for treatment for stoved fingers. You'd be surprised.

And so it goes, the great American national sport. Every year the same old story. The same superstitions, the same general rules, the same hotdogs, the same hard benches, the

same rhubarbs, and the same team wins the American league pennant, by darn.

Well, this year, maybe . . .

## Changes Made In Women's Room Drawings

The schedule for women students to draw rooms has been changed, the dean of women's office reported yesterday. Women students will draw their room numbers at the dean of women's office, 105 Old Main.

Eight-week students who will live in dormitories the first period and who have not been assigned rooms will draw rooms during the regular office hours today. The office hours are from 8 a.m. to noon and from 1 p.m. until 5 p.m.

Eight-week students who will live in dormitories the second period and who have not been assigned rooms will draw during the regular office hours tomorrow.

The remainder of the present fourth semester students will draw rooms during the regular office hours Monday.

Present third semester students will draw rooms during the regular office hours Tuesday.

Present second semester students will draw as originally scheduled on Tuesday night. Students with numbers from 1 through 150 at 6:30 p.m.; with numbers from 151 through 300 at 7 p.m.; with numbers from 301 through 450 at 7:30 p.m.; with numbers from 451 through 600 at 8 p.m.; and with numbers from 601 through 755 at 8:30 p.m.

## Dean's List Omission

Roy Clark, eighth semester arts and letters major, was omitted from the Dean's List of the College of the Liberal Arts for the fall semester of 1954.

## Tonight on WDFM

8:15 MINGACTCLUB  
7:25 \_\_\_\_\_ Sign On  
7:30 \_\_\_\_\_ Serenade in Blue  
7:45 \_\_\_\_\_ As You Believe  
8:00 \_\_\_\_\_ Concert Cameos  
8:30 \_\_\_\_\_ Just Out  
9:00 \_\_\_\_\_ Pan American  
9:15 \_\_\_\_\_ News  
9:30 \_\_\_\_\_ The Master's Palette  
10:30 \_\_\_\_\_ Thought for the Day