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The Daily Collegian

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Must Every Day Be Election Day?

Today is election day. At the University, this is not unusual. Days without at least one major or minor election somewhere on campus are in the minority.

Is this why participation in campus elections is so poor? Only 34 per cent of the total student population chose to cast ballots in the more-than-usually-controversial spring election. And again yesterday, students working at the polls during the elections of members of eight College councils had reason to be lonesome. Voters stayed away in droves.

There's little reason to doubt that the situation will change today.

Look at the number of ballots students are asked to cast each year. Freshmen and sophomores may vote in the fall and spring All-University elections. All students vote in the spring race. Residents of dormitories are asked to vote in dorm elections. This year, because of a mistake during the spring election, there was an additional election for Athletic Association officers.

Besides these, unnumbered special elections are held throughout the year—the one, for example, held to select the 1955 Quill girl in which all coeds were entitled to vote. In addition, every campus activity, big or small, has at least one annual election.

No wonder students don't vote! Elections at the University are as common as rainfall.

There may be a solution: hold the dorm elec-

tions and the fall elections—both affect primarily freshmen and sophomores—at the same time. Then, in the spring, hold the All-University and the councils elections at the same time.

These joint election days might create some problems, but they might move toward a solution to the one big election day problem: scarcity of voters.

The joint elections might have to be held at a number of points on campus, but possibly they could be held at several points in the Hetzel Union Building.

Joint elections wouldn't interfere with campaigning for posts in the All-University elections. Political parties are completely divorced from council elections and campaigning for council seats is virtually non-existent. No conflict here.

With one concentrated joint election period each semester, it's possible that the urge to vote might move more students than it now does.

With two major elections going on at the same time a really extensive get-out-the-vote campaign which would touch—and drag out—every student is conceivable. The double feature has done wonders for the movie industry.

By focusing attention on two major election dates, this system would, we believe, get out the vote.

It might be worth a trial. The present system obviously doesn't work.

—Mike Feinsilber

Demonstrations: Who's to Blame?

Students were blamed for last week's mass demonstration and the guilty ones who were apprehended have been punished. Now let us see who else was at fault.

The administration does not provide enough recreational space for the men, especially in the West Dormitory area. Students are not even allowed to stand on the grass in the courtyard for a quiet game of "catch". Recreation Hall is booked up for most of the year with intramural sports and women's physical education classes are held on the tennis courts several hours a day.

The shuffleboards and ping pong tables in the Hetzel Union Building cannot possibly consume the energy built up by 8000 male students on a warm spring evening.

What these men need is outdoor exercise.

Lack of recreational facilities was not the only cause of the demonstration last week, but it was a contributing factor. Instead of waving flags out of windows and lighting firecrackers many of the men in the East Dormitory area were playing softball. They were not even interested in participating in the riot after it was

started by the men in the West Dorms.

To go further, the administration does not supply its approximately 8000 men students with enough guidance counselors. One dean of men with his three assistants and a corps of 38 resident counselors is not adequate for 3000 dormitory men. Roughly, this means each counselor is responsible for the welfare of over 75 students.

These students get along very well without a counselor when everything runs smoothly, but in a time of tension when the counselors are especially needed, the students are left to themselves without guidance.

Discipline is only one function of the dean of men's office. The office also advises in fraternity and independent affairs, and is the guidance center for men.

More assistants for the dean of men, more student counselors, and a dozen or so more softball diamonds would go a long way toward stopping student uprisings that stem from student restlessness and administrative weaknesses.

—Jackie Hudgins

Safety Valve...

And in Our Food, Bugs...

TO THE EDITOR: We, as students of a university as large as Penn State, are aware of the problems involved in preparing food for consumption in the dining halls. We understand it is physically impossible, on a limited amount of money, for Food Service to prepare meals similar in quality and quantity to those served in our homes.

But there are certain qualities which we expect and have a right to receive in our food. Tonight, (Tuesday) for instance, a large number of people whom we know, including ourselves, found several small black insects on the rice which was served to us.

This incident is not something that can be easily forgotten or excused. And to make the situation worse, the servers in the dining hall did not even offer to give us other plates when we pointed out the bugs...

It was necessary for us to remove a sample of rice which contained the insects and take it, as evidence, to the Food Service office in Waring Hall. Even this action only netted us several "We're sorry's" and an offer of more platters. But who, after seeing a plate full of rice and bugs, would want to go up to the dining hall again and look at the same rice—even if the bugs were not present? We didn't! We would not be so worked up about tonight's situation if it were the first such one, but this has happened at least twice before during this semester. Several weeks ago we found a few servings of spinach containing some worms, and soon afterwards a salad which was infested with small beetles—living ones.

Since we and many other people have paid for and are almost required to eat the food which is prepared and served in the... dining

The One Who Got Away

TO THE EDITOR: I wonder why the young man who seemed to be organizing and leading the "unmentionable disturbance" in the West Dorm area last week was completely overlooked by the... counselors? If I am not mistaken he was last seen leading the final blundering movement toward... Thompson swinging a rope around his head... Why must a bystander be suspended while the leaders march on?

•Letter Cut

—Name Withheld

Gazette...

Today
BUSINESS STAFF DAILY COLLEGIAN, 6:30 p.m., 111 Carnegie
DELTA SIGMA PI, business meeting, 7:30 p.m., Phi Sigma Delta
FENCING CLUB, 7:40 p.m., North Corridor, Recreation Hall
FUTURE TEACHERS OF AMERICA, 7:30 p.m., 217 Willard
HILLEL, Old Testament Class, 8 p.m., Hillel Foundation
NEWMAN CLUB, Daily Rosary, 4:30 p.m., church
SLAVIC CLUB, elections and speaker, 8 p.m., Home Economics Living Center
SPRING WEEK CORONATION COMMITTEE, 6:30 p.m., Grange Lounge
STUDENT ENCAMPMENT COMMITTEE, 4 p.m., 218 HUB
WSPA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, 6:30 p.m., Grange Playroom

UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL
James Bates, Thomas Cerasso, Thelma Cling, Phillip Dacko, Relia Evans, Larry Gershman, Karl Kauffman, Michael Lutterner, Thomas Mislawicz, Kenneth Poff, William Procz, James Rose, Carolyn Stambaugh, William Stoneman, Merle Umstead.

halls, we think some action, whatever it might be, should be taken to prevent further occurrences of incidents similar to tonight's.

•Letter Cut

—Richard Wright, John Eaton

Broadcasting Resumed

Station WDFM resumed broadcasting operations at 7:27 last night after a temporary halt.

According to Ted Bair, station manager, operation was discontinued at 8:18 p.m. Tuesday because of a lack of voltage. This is the fourth time in two weeks that a power shortage has halted operations.

Grad Lecture Series

To Present Todhunter

The second lecture in the Graduate School Centennial Lecture Series will be presented at 8 tonight in the Hetzel Union Building by Dr. E. Neige Todhunter, dean of the School of Home Economics at the University of Alabama.

Dr. Todhunter will speak on "Our Heritage in Nutrition." The lecture is open to the public.

Delta Sigma Pi Elections

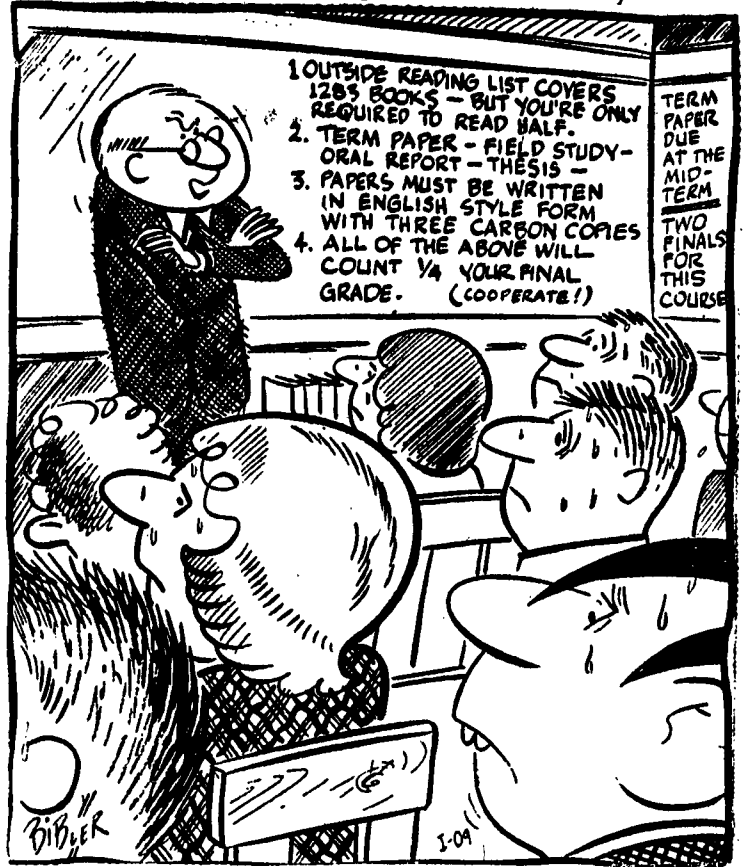
Delta Sigma Pi, professional business fraternity, will elect officers at 7:30 tonight at Phi Sigma Delta. New officers will be installed after the elections.

AIM Board of Review

The Association of Independent Men Judicial Board of Review will meet at 7:30 tonight in 218 Hetzel Union.

Little Man on Campus

By Bibler



"Since I've taught this course for five credits— It probably seems like a lot of work for two credits."

Marcie Beaucoup

By MARCIE MacDONALD

In the light (?) of recent news developments, both locally and nationally, it becomes necessary to invoke the last Wordsmanship Privilege (see Senate Regulations for Underprivileged Undergraduate Students).

First, let's hop on the Saturday classes train with the question, "Is It a Sin to Love Your Mother?" This objection to students going home for weekends is really unconstitutional, or something. Where else in the world but college are you asked to stand watch 24 hours a day, seven days a week over your task at hand?

The founding fathers (strong and great) began this institution in the most isolated place they could find; through the ages students figured out ways to get back to civilization now and then. And now that's all been in vain. As far as the distraction of the city goes, some people are far more distracted by the University farms.

Next question, please. "Why Isn't Spring Week Eliminated to Increase Preparation for Classes?" This has a simple answer; it's because that compensation has to get used up somewhere.

So much for Saturday classes. Now for art. Perhaps the senior class gift committee could be persuaded to think seriously and with foresight in selecting the gift that henceforth will be designated as "Given By The Class of 1955." Instead of seat separators for the benches, water pistols for the Campus Patrol, or an airstrip for Angel Flight, we vote for a cultural shot in the arm.

A few years ago the University could have had Zorach's "Lineman" for half price. The University goofed. However, it's never too late to start to correct this situation of complete lack of anything of true artistic value.

We overheard a few irate ag students the other day, complaining about the method of electing members of the Agriculture Student Council. It seems that the agriculture clubs select their representatives to the council, while all other colleges hold open nominations on a class basis for the council elections.

Somehow the Ag Council seems to be a bit behind the times in its method. But perhaps there is a good reason for it. What? By the way, the University weather station must have its almanac turned to the wrong page. We walked around gazing skyward all day yesterday waiting for the skies to clear and the mercury to rise. Well, need we say more?

A word of tribute to the 238 students who donated blood on Tuesday. Once upon a time a coed we know laughed so hard at her roommate's pale face after they both had given blood that she fainted dead away from the exer-

tion. He who laughs last, you know, sure does.

It looks like there's going to be a lot more turnpike crossing the Commonwealth within a few years. We'll be able to drive round and round in circles and never touch foreign soil.

A word of warning to students enrolled in Air Force ROTC: whenever you borrow training planes for afternoon joy rides, please bring them back.

Hubcaps Stolen In Parking Lot

Four hubcaps were stolen between April 29 and last Thursday night from a 1954 Oldsmobile convertible belonging to Thomas Eynon, second semester chemical engineering major. The car was in parking lot 72, north of Hort Woods.

Another automobile, also a late-model Oldsmobile, may have had its hubcaps stolen, too, according to the Campus Patrol. The owner of the car, which was parked in the same lot as Eynon's has not reported any theft to the Campus Patrol.

Eynon said he noticed the hubcaps missing when he went for his car around 5 p.m. Thursday.

The Campus Patrol estimated the cost of the hubcaps to be \$25 to \$30.

A Campus Patrol official said it is impossible for the Patrol to watch all the remote parking areas. He recommended that students lock hubcaps in their car trunks.

The Campus Patrol is investigating the theft.

Miller Is Representative Of Civil Defense Council

Dr. Warren W. Miller, associate professor of chemistry, has been appointed a special representative of the Centre County Civil Defense Council by the Federal Civil Defense Administration.

Dr. Miller will visit the Atomic Energy Commission's proving grounds in Nevada to observe atomic weapons tests now underway there.

Parked Car Is Hit

A parked car owned by Samuel Miller Jr., eighth semester industrial arts major, was struck Monday by a car which failed to stop, causing about \$50 damage. A witness obtained the license number of a car. Police are investigating.