Published Tuesday through Saturday mornings during the University year, the Daily Collegian is a studentoperated newspaper.

The Baily Collegian

Successor to THE FREE LANCE, est. 1887

Editorials represent the viewpoints of the writers, not necessarily the policy of the paper, the student body, or the University.

Entered as second-class matter July 5, 1934 at the State College, Pa. Post Office under the act of March 3, 1879.

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The Hangman's Noose: It's Out of Date

How do you punish the student who cheats? Is all cheating equally wrong? Should all cheaters be dealt with equally?

Or is there a degree of wrongmess? Should cheaters be penalized according to the seriousness of the offense?

The questions concerned the many committees and groups whose efforts restulted in the University's new academic honesty policy.

The solution classifies cheating into three

types and establishes three graded penalties for each type of cheating. Spur of the moment un-premeditated cheating draws a penalty of send-ing probationary memorandum to the office of the dean of the student's college, the dean of men or women, the student's advisor, and notifying the student's parents.

Planned, premeditated cheating, such as using riamited, prementation of contents, such as a same crib notes, results in disciplinary probation for a year and notification of parents. Disciplinary probation goes on the student's records and bars him from holding office in activities and from representing the University in any official capacity, such as on a team.

The most severe type of cheating, cooperative premeditated cheating involving collusion, such as stealing or buying a final, draws the most severe penalty: suspension for the rest of the semester or for the next semester.

Outside of removing a student from the campus, there are few measures the University is able to take to discipline students who break its rules. It cannot fine them or jail them as civil authorities can—and it is obvious that it should not even if it could.

The University's disciplinary actions are both warnings to violators and humiliating experiences for them. By informing parents and University officials of probationary actions, and by putting these on the student's permanent records, the University is making the student feel discomfort. How great this discomfort is depends, of course, on the individual.

Far more important than merely punishing

students is the University's attempt to rehabilitate them-to show them their errors and to aid them to correct their mistakes.

It is unfortunate that to get individual counseling and attention a student at Penn State must first do wrong. Academic advisers are generally seen for a few minutes once a semestration. ter. The University lacks a sound counseling program.

Steps to alleviate this situation are being taken. A counseling program, aimed particularly at freshmen, is under study

The student who is accused of cheating will the student who is accused of cheating win-be given a hearing under a system that promis-es to be fair to the student. First offenses of unpremeditated cheating and premeditated cheating—but not premeditated cheating involv-ing collusion—will be heard by boards in each college composed of three faculty members

and two students.

We assume that in all cases the burden of proof will be the responsibility of the accuser—in this case, the professor—and not the accused, the student. The student must be held the student of the s innocent until proven guilty, as in any fair judicial system.

Second offenses and first offenses of the most severe type of cases will go directly to the Senate Committee on Student Affairs subcommittee on discipline. This body will also function as an appeal board for students found guilty by the Committees on Academic Honesty in the

Considered against the haphazardness of the former system, the University's new program is fairer to students because it is consistent, because it recognizes that students subject to stresses greater than they can bear sometimes cheat against their better judgment or original intentions, and because it attempts not merely

to punish the cheater but to help him. Given the support of the faculty and the students, the new system will work in their best

-The Editor

Scholastic Difficulty?

Every year the registrar releases figures on the number of students who have flunked out, and every year students complain about the unsympathetic administration.

But we feel this accusation is unfounded. Since 1949, when the Division of Intermediate

Registration was set up, the administration has been campaigning actively to help solve the students' academic problems.

In the nearly six years DIR has been in existence, hundreds of students who might otherwise have left school have been graduated

because of their work in DIR.

When a student applies for help at the DIR office in Old Main, he is given counseling by a trained personnel worker. If he is not sure just what he wants to study he is given tests to

determine his interests and abilities.

The student is placed in DIR as his official curriculum until he decides what he wants to major in or until his average is sufficiently high for him to be accepted in another curriculum riculum

Seventeen per cent of the students who were enrolled for the fall semester were accorded some sort of disciplinary action. Most of them were placed on scholastic probation, a few were entered into DIR, and some were dropped from

the University enrollment.

If these seventeen per cent had gotten help early in the semester, fewer of them would have been given schoolstic probation and the number leaving school would have been cut

One big problem confronting workers in DIR is that students put off seeking counseling until they have 'wasted' a semester, so to speak.

It is a mistake to think of DIR as the last

chance to avoid being tossed out of school. If students would seek guidance when they first recognize their scholastic difficulties, more effective programs of rehabilitation could be

The administration is willing to help, but the students must first be able to recognize their need for help.

-Jackie Hudgins

Gazette...

NEWMAN CLUB, Daily Rosary, 4:30 p.m., Church; party, 8 p.m., student center

UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL
Steven Beeman, Francis Markland, Henry Krause, Henry
Woelman, Gerald Feryo, Benjamin Wein, Philip Smith, Edna
Patte of a recording Could, Pattein Kratz, Marilyn Ward,
Marsha dingylan, Rhyda Becker, Susanne Spencer, Joyes
Gox, Ruth Eshleman, Joan Aelcerman, Carol Jamison.

Safety Valve— What Is Detrimental?

TO THE EDITOR: As of late, several have either been suspended from the University or placed on office probation for "conduct detrimental to the good name of the University." This blanket indictment for all unapproved acts of conduct whether within or without the confines of the University's immediate jurisdiction could have some very serious overtones. diction, could have some very serious overtones.

persons who have some very serious overtones.

... Before we try to determine whether those persons who have been punished for seemingly acting in a manner "detrimental to the good name of the University" were guilty of such a nebulous charge, let us ask ourselves just what does constitute the statement "good name of the University."

Universities are judged by their academic standards and the maturity of their students as a whole, not by a random misdemeanor on the part of individual students . . . When every minor incident is treated as if it were a crime directed at society, how are students to learn to act for themselves?

Moreover, who could believe that these strong penalties are going to "make those young snips behave?" Getting drunk now and then, or causing some property damage are common to all universities, but other schools have been able to keep these incidents to a minimum without using such severe punishments and condoning their disciplinary actions with such abstract phrases.

Lastly, suppose someone should ever attempt to analyze "conduct detrimental to the good name of the University" and carry it to its logical conclusion. Wielding such a catch-all logical conclusion. Wielding such a catch-air phrase for a weapon, a less sympathetic administration could strangle any student criticism in your paper and lampooning in Froth and possibly muzzle some members of the faculty. It is very doubtful that this would come to pass in the near future, but disciplinary action condoned by purely arbitrary judgments imply much more serious consequences.

If we are to further the good name of the University, let us quit throwing it around whenever we cannot think of any other reason for punishing a student who has already paid his penalty to the civil authorities.

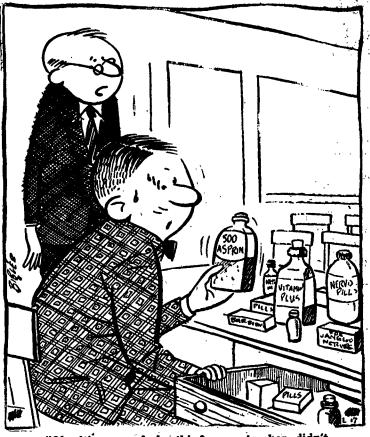
If the persons who are so concerned with the good name of the University would stop and think about it, they would find some better excuse that would apply to each individual case instead of using a blanket to cover their own

failures. •Letter Cut

-Byron Fielding

Little Man on Campus

By Bibler



"Oh, it's your desk-th' former teacher didn't take time to empty his desk."

Look Who's Talking . . .

About Singing By JACKIE HUDGINS

the verse.

But "Dear old State, Dear old State" is also a verse ending. Ask anybody. Some of them even doctrinated by hat men and womthink it's the ending of all three en at one time or another. We verses. After they mumble two or should all have risen to sing the three lines they feel pretty safe "Alma Mater" at football games to bellow "Dear old State, Dear old State."

The second verse admittedly a line of the second verse admitted line of the second verse admitted line of the li

old State."

The second verse, admittedly a lif you can't light em, join bit sentimental, will probably lif you can't learn the words, change them,

"When we stood at boyhood's gate (like Farmer's, High School days—without women) "Shapeless in the hands of fate" encourages smirks. "Thou didst mould us, Dear old State" (the old English accent). song."
"Into men, Into men (again in-Only a suggestion.

There is just no excuse.

If you can't fight 'em, join 'em.

... a suggestion—
"For the words that we don't know.

For the profs who've 'got to go' For the school of liberal woe. Here's the song. Here's the song."

Center Elects Professors

Daniel Van Duyne, junior in agricultural engineering, from Towaco, N.J., has been elected to three-year terms on the governing board of the Social Science Research Center.

They are Dr. William T. Butz assistant professor of agricultural economics; Dr. Ernest H. Freund, associate professor and a cting head of the department of philosophy; Dr. James W. Markham, associate professor of journalism; Dr. Harold E. Nelson, associate professor of speech; and Dr. John H. Reedy Jr., assistant professor of economics.

Retiring from the board are Dr. Retiring from the board are Dr. Spendomore.

Retiring from the board are Dr. George E. Brandow, professor of agricultural economics; Dr. M. Nelson McGeary, professor of pol-itical science; Dr. E. William Mil-ler, professor and head of the department of geography; Dr. Maurice A. Mook, professor of anthropology; and Dr. Roger B. Saylor, associate professor of business statistics. statistics.

Correction *

The Freshman Class Mixer will be held from 2 to 5 p.m. tomorrow in the Hetzel Union Building instead of today as was incorrectly reported in yesterday's Daily Collegian.

Van Duyne Elected **Head of Ag Club**

Daniel Van Duyne, junior in

sophomore.

AIM, Leonides Picnic

Tickets for the Association of Independent Men-Leonides-West

Tonight on WDFM 91.1 MEGACYCLES

7:25		Sign O
7:30	Starlight Weekly News	Serenac
3:30		Realisan
10:30	Thought for	the De