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The Daily Collegian

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

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MIKE FEINSILBER, Editor

JACK ALBRECHT, Business Manager

STAFF THIS ISSUE: Night Editor, Ron Gatehouse; Copy Editors, Fran Fanucci and Shirley Calkins; Assistants, Pauline Metz, Dick Hufnagel, Anne Friedberg, Harry Kitzinger, Pat Tomlinson, and Audrey Sassano.

The Slicks Hit the Panic Button—Again

Pity American college students. They're cowering, fearful, wily-nily, afraid to voice any opinion at any time under any circumstances. Ostrich-like, they hide from thought.

This is the impression the all-too-worried slick magazines are stuck with and it's the one they've been trying for several years to stick their readers with.

The latest slick to go into the let-us-analyze-the-fearsick-student routine is Redbook, which calls itself "the magazine for young adults." An article, "Fear on the Campus," by Andre Fontaine in the April issue has recently been awarded the 1955 Benjamin Franklin Award for "most distinguished and meritorious public service."

According to Redbook's proud news release on this, the awards, presented for the first time last year, "are comparable to prizes in other media of mass communications such as the Pulitzer Prizes . . ." The University of Illinois is the sole administrator of the awards.

Why any university should find Fontaine's hogwash a "meritorious public service" escapes us. For what he says, simply ain't so.

We've taken no survey, as the author claims to have. We can't find any outspoken college students to quote Marx just to prove he's not afraid. But we know there is no dark "Fear on the Campus" of Penn State and we doubt if it exists on any campus to the degree Fontaine would have us believe.

"Many college students," contends the author, "today are frightened. They are afraid to support unpopular causes, even when they believe in them . . . In short, they are growing increasingly afraid to think for themselves."

"Why? Because irresponsible investigators, hysterical community leaders, and other self-appointed 'thought police' are swiftly and surely creating a climate of 'suppression and suspicion and fear' on many of our college campuses."

Wow! We don't know how we missed this; "thought police" are probably this very minute standing behind the Dutch Elms on the Mall, eavesdropping on conversations.

Fontaine, after denouncing campus investigations, conducted one himself and, in his article, quotes 15 students and one professor. He finds fear dominating the college student's every thought to the point that the student just doesn't like to think any more. Students are afraid, he maintains, of change, "Not only change in gov-

ernment, but in every vital aspect of our daily lives—our health, our homes, our jobs, our household appliances."

(We were afraid to look at first, but a quick glance behind the backs of the campus' thought police has failed to reveal any home economics majors hovering in fear over a change in design of vacuum cleaners.)

The fact that most college students supported Dwight D. Eisenhower for president is evidence that they are "politically conservative," Fontaine says.

Redbook's is just the latest in a never-ending series of accounts about the timidity of American college students that the nation's magazines have shoved into print. They all seem to wind up with the same conclusion.

The conclusion, we contend, is false. American students, if we are able to judge them, are not afraid. They may be less boisterous than were their predecessors of the 1920s. They may be more apathetic. But they're not the shivering milquetoasts the magazines make them out to be.

Perhaps the magazines draw their startling conclusions because the loud, rabble-rousing, flag-waving soap-box stomping college student is no more.

We submit that American college students are wiser—and therefore quieter—than were their forerunners. They are more politically alert. They can see through pseudo-saviors and weak ideologies. And, we maintain, these are good signs, not evil ones.

We suggest that magazines planning to psychoanalyze American youth wipe the tears out of their eyes, take a realistic look, and quit perpetuating a lie.

The articles they now carry about college students—expressing fear of fear of fear—are not dangerous. They're just wrong.

—The Editor

Gazette . . .

Today
 NEWMAN CLUB, daily rosary, 4:30 p.m., Church; Novena, 7 p.m., Church; choir practice, after novena.
 I.R.R.A., 7:30 p.m., 209 HUB, business and social.
 CHESS CLUB, 7-10 p.m., 3 Sparks.
 CLASSIFIED AD STAFF, 7 p.m., Collegian office.
 UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL.

Lloyd Arms, John Beres, Cyril Carroll, Rita Cofsky, Joyce Cox, Thomas Davis, Ruth Eshleman, Arthur Gramps, Joseph Grubtner, Lloyd Krull, Mildred Lundy, Charles Mosheim, Suzanne Pink, Harry Ross, Virginia Stuer, James Valeri, Lester Walters, Joseph Waple, Marilyn Ward.

Safety Valve . . .

Ashamed of Progress?

TO THE EDITOR: In answer to opinions I have received as a result of a letter in the May 14 edition concerning the Spring Week parade, I should like to put forth my own views. It should never be assumed that a person is representing or expressing the opinions of a larger body, unless it is so stated. I do not believe Mr. Ronald Lewis said or intended to imply that his letter represented any views other than his own, which is as it should be.

So far as the incident concerned, its appropriateness quite possibly lay in the close proximity of the Emancipation Proclamation and the Morrill Act, since both were issued or approved by President Lincoln in 1862.

The parade incident, then, depicted the condition of the Negro (in the main) as of 1862, and is, after all, a matter of fact. I cannot see any other way of connecting it with Penn State.

I do not feel at all ashamed that some of my forefathers were slaves. I feel that it is more important for Americans (Negro and otherwise) to point with pride to the tremendous strides the Negro has made in these 100 years than to deny that such a condition ever existed.

By viewing the incident with the before-after-present treatment, I think you will see that, indeed, it is something to be proud, rather than ashamed of, so long as the portrayals are not in themselves, offensive. Our progress, nationally and at Penn State, is a matter of record.

Letter Cut

—Jim Blocker

No Trains, No Planes . . .

TO THE EDITOR: In Wednesday's Collegian there appeared a small article pertaining to the last passenger train to enter State College. I would like to know why this service was discontinued and if there are any plans in the future for railway transportation.

If you do not already know, the Borough Council turned down a chance to buy the tract of ground that is now being used as a private landing field with the knowledge that three major airlines would consider State College on their routes.

With the speed at which this University town is growing, I think that the transportation facilities are solely in need of a boost in the arm.

Letter Cut

—Robert Lapensohn

Editor's Note: A representative of the Bellefonte Central Railway Company said repeated efforts have been made to provide student transportation during rush seasons. The last passenger train to Bellefonte, which was oper-

Poor Program for Leaders

TO THE EDITOR: In replying to an editorial that was critical of the Leadership Training Program, Doug Moorhead stated that the program is not set up to "prevent anyone from being on Cabinet." Even if we overload the motives for setting up such a program, the net result is going to be exactly that: to exclude an overwhelming majority of the student body from All University and class officers.

And there is little doubt that this compulsory program will restrict the student's choice. First of all, no matter which night of the week it is held, it will conflict with students' responsibilities to established organizations, to say nothing of evening classes. Secondly, many persons in Engineering, Chemistry, and other difficult fields that take more time than, for instance Business Administration in which I am enrolled, will find it difficult to take such a program of dubious value.

Thirdly, it is doubtful that, even if the program were held the year round, everyone here at the University could take part. Which brings us to the very heart of the matter.

Possibly a voluntary Leadership Training Program is a good thing; this I do not propose to debate. However, the evil arises from making it compulsory that candidates for offices take the course.

Why? Because, as we have already seen, this will limit the choice of possible candidates to a small circle of people. In my opinion, every person who has the average and the correct semester should be eligible for office. Let the voters make the decision as to whether a candidate is qualified, and a race between a person who has taken the course and one who has not is the way to settle the matter, not by telling a person he cannot run because he has not been "trained."

The Elections Committee and Cabinet should not change the Elections Code to make the program compulsory. We don't want a small select group to have a monopoly on student government.

—Jack Higgins

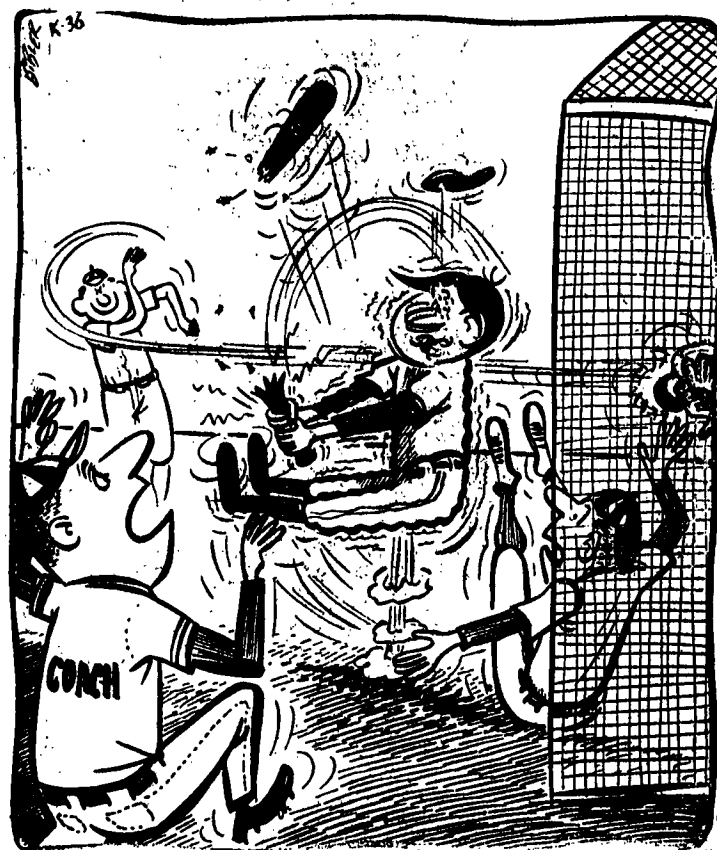
ated several years ago at Christmas time, attracted about 40 students. The representative said money collected from these students, less than 40 cents apiece, was hardly enough to pay for water for the locomotive.

Transportation, he said, would be available, were the demand sufficient.

The reason the Air Port Authority rejected the offer of the tract of ground was because it lacked sufficient funds. To build an air port would cost in the neighborhood of one million dollars, which the borough, even in cooperation with the University, could not afford.

Little Man on Campus

By Bibler



"Ok-ok, you guys! Let's quit clownin' aroun' with that shot putt!"

Murals Represent Students' Dreams

By DODI JONES

Rub your eyes again. Those aren't technicolored daydreams you're seeing, but colorful murals painted by the students of Art Education 487 and 488.

Few people have passed through the halls of Temporary Building without becoming intrigued with its decorative walls. The source of the picture panorama is a group of ambitious undergraduate and graduate students with some profound ideas and a willingness to devote their extra hours to painting.

The mural painting course has a maximum of 18 students per semester. Each student chooses a theme and sketches a picture story before transferring the idea to the wall.

Because of limited space, previous murals must be washed down with soap and water before a new painting is started. For this reason, egg tempera paint is used.

Among the murals now being painted is "Evolution of a Socio-Economic Condition" by Emily Zuber, graduate art major from Brooklyn, New York.

Miss Zuber's mural represents the discrimination present in society. She has depicted man beginning life and his eventual diversions which create discrimination.

A colorful painting by Bruce Carter, graduate art education major from Palmyra, New York, represents a soldier's life during 18 months overseas.

Carter is striving to gain the effect of the music a soldier would hear in different locations and situations in the army, ranging from Scotch bagpipe tunes to dance hall music. Covering the figures are planes of color, bringing the picture together as a whole, varying in shades according to the type of music represented.

Rosalina Tiong, graduate education major and a native of the Philippine Islands, has used her experiences in the war as a mural subject.

Miss Tiong began her picture with a scene of an American plane bombing the island homes—her family ran for cover. In dull shades of gray and green, the picture depicts the fear-contorted faces of natives and soldiers, products of Miss Tiong's memory.

Asked why most students paint sad murals, Dr. Viktor Lowenfeld, professor of art education, explained that most of the paintings are very personal expressions of the painters' feelings.

"In art," he said, "the most serious parts of life lend themselves better to expression. The students are free to express what they feel."

Dr. Lowenfeld pointed out it is not the final product of the mural that is important, but the effect it has on the student.

If a student is helped in emotional, intellectual, or technical growth, or in all of these, the reward is gained.

These "modern Michaelangelos" do not limit their talents to Temporary Building. A few examples of their work can be found in the speech clinic and the lobby of Burrowes Building.

AIM Board Set for Tonight

An organizational meeting of the Board of Governors of the Association of Independent Men will be held at 7:30 tonight in 203 Hetzel Union, according to Bruce Lieske, AIM president.

Committee appointments will be announced by Lieske for approval by the board members. Preliminary reports on plans for Orientation Week will also be announced. An executive meeting was held last night to work out some details for the week.

According to Lieske, his program for AIM next year will be to "strengthen the four area councils" and maintain "close cooperation with Leonides," independent women's organization.

Forestry Society To Honor Seniors

The Penn State Forestry Society will honor its graduating seniors at a banquet at 6:30 p.m. Friday in the Hetzel Union Building. Logan J. Bennett, executive director of the Pennsylvania State Game Commission, will be the speaker.

Guests of honor at the banquet will be Maurice K. Goddard, secretary of forests and waters, Walter L. Henning, secretary of agriculture and former head of the department of animal husbandry, Lyman E. Jackson, dean of the College of Agriculture, and Dean of Men Frank J. Simes.

Tickets to the banquet may be obtained in the forestry office.

Tonight on WDFM

91.1 MEGACYCLES
 7:25 Sign On
 7:30 Stand By
 8:00 Chapel Choir
 10:00 Recorded Music
 10:30 Thought for the Day