

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

# The Daily 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 8, 1934 at the State College, Pa. Post Office under the act of March 3, 1879.

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## WDFM: Pardon, Your Silence Is Showing

It doesn't make much sense to operate a radio station that hardly anyone is able to hear.

But that is what student station WDFM has been doing for more than two years. Its staff prepares scripts, goes to expense, goes through rehearsals, and finally goes on the air for three hours a night—and all this for a pitifully small audience.

Borough residents fortunate enough to own an FM set compose that audience.

The reason: WDFM broadcasts over a FM circuit. In order for its programs to be heard on a regular AM radio set, the signal must be translated into an AM signal. This can be done with a device called a transponder.

When, on Dec. 6, 1953, WDFM hopefully went on the air for the first time, plans called for transponders to be installed in campus dormitories within a short period.

And then began a long hard series of disappointments. Transponders built by student engineers, after months of work, were installed in dorms, and broke down. They were removed, rebuilt, reinstalled. They failed. Time after time, hope was raised and disappointment resulted.

After too much wasted time, wasted dollars, and broken promises, it is surely time for the transponders to be built by professional engineers.

Student engineers simply don't have the time, the experience, or the know-how to build workable transponders. Even after they were ready to build what they hoped were perfected trans-

ponders, the student engineers ran into difficulties installing them in women's dorms. They were permitted to do this only on weekends.

We urge that WDFM commission a few professional engineers to tackle the job over the summer, when there will be less difficulty in gaining access to the dorms.

It is entirely conceivable that professional engineers could do in a matter of weeks what students, working in a brand new field and working during sparetime hours, could not do in more than two years.

Then, in the fall, Penn State would really have a radio station.

Students are now assessed 25 cents a semester to support a radio station they cannot hear. This is grossly unfair. As we see it, WDFM is under a moral obligation to put on the air a station students can receive over their own radio sets or to stop collecting students' money for a malicious experiment.

When All-University Cabinet first passed the fee recommendation to the University Board of Trustees, it thought it was creating a radio station for students. When the senior classes of 1951 and 1952 gave their money to a fund to start WDFM, they were operating under the same assumption.

But this sadly has turned out not to be the case. When created, WDFM was given two functions: to educate students in radio, and to provide a campus radio station. It has, to date, fulfilled only one of these. Until it fulfills its second function, WDFM will remain a sad disillusionment, an unfulfilled promise.

By approving the 25-cent fee, the student body and the Board of Trustees apparently were convinced of the worth of a student radio station. This fight was waged and won, but Penn Staters still remain without the spoils—a real radio station.

Station WDFM will remain a mockery of student wishes until the day comes when at least dormitory residents can hear it broadcast.

That day will not come until functional transponders are built and transponders won't be built until professional engineers do the job.

We hope that day comes during the summer months. It can come. It is up to the directors of WDFM to see that it does.

Station WDFM must break its silence or stop collecting fees for a service it is not performing.

—The Editor

## Safety Valve...

### The Chairman Was Wrong

TO THE EDITOR: The conduct of Ernest O. Famous, past chairman of the All-University Elections Committee, in the matter concerning the Leadership Training Program and the Cabinet measures in support of it, seems to be both reprehensible and unfortunate.

As chairman of an executive committee, whose duty it is to execute the policies determined by the All-University Cabinet, Mr. Famous had one of two choices in regard to the proposed amendment to the elections code. He could carry it out, in accordance with the expressed wishes of the All-University Cabinet or he should have resigned, if he felt he had earned and sincere protests against it. Unfortunately, Mr. Famous chose to do neither.

Conducting a telephone "poll" of his committee, Mr. Famous informed Cabinet that the committee felt that the proposed amendment was a measure that would "undermine democratic student government."

Debate on the merits of the measure should have been presented to the Cabinet at the time that Cabinet itself was deciding the merits of the Leadership Training Committee report.

The results of the action of the past chairman of the All-University Elections Committee were unfortunate. Not only was the considerable time and effort spent by the Leadership Training Committee put aside, but the arbitrary assumption of Mr. Famous that he could deny the right of Cabinet to instruct one of Cabinet's own committees has established a rather dangerous precedent for student government here at Penn State.

It is through such irresponsible actions that student government may well lose ground in the attempt to provide responsibility in student life and affairs.

—Robert R. Dennis

## Why We're Indifferent

TO THE EDITOR: The headline in The Daily Collegian of May 20, 1955, "Freshman Cars Prohibited," provided the answer to Penn State's perennial question: why doesn't the student body support student government?

All-University Cabinet voted against this recommendation — which, incidentally, was recommended to the Cabinet by administrative officials — earlier this year.

However, Cabinet's vote against the recommendation was completely ignored by the administration. Actually, the administration ignored student opinion because it differed from the school's official viewpoint.

Whether or not this action was necessary is irrelevant. The way in which the administrative officials forced their decision on the students is just another example pointing out the reason why students remain indifferent to student government.

—Peter Muchanus

## Glick Wins Trophy

Sam Glick, freshman in arts and letters from Mt. Pleasant, won the West Halls ping pong tournament held last week. He defeated Jerry Mitchell, freshman in aeronautical engineering from Oil City. Glick will receive a trophy, and Mitchell will be awarded a medal.

## Senior Invitations

Seniors who have ordered commencement invitations and announcements may pick them up at the Hetzel Union desk.

In order to receive the invitations and announcements, a receipt must be presented.

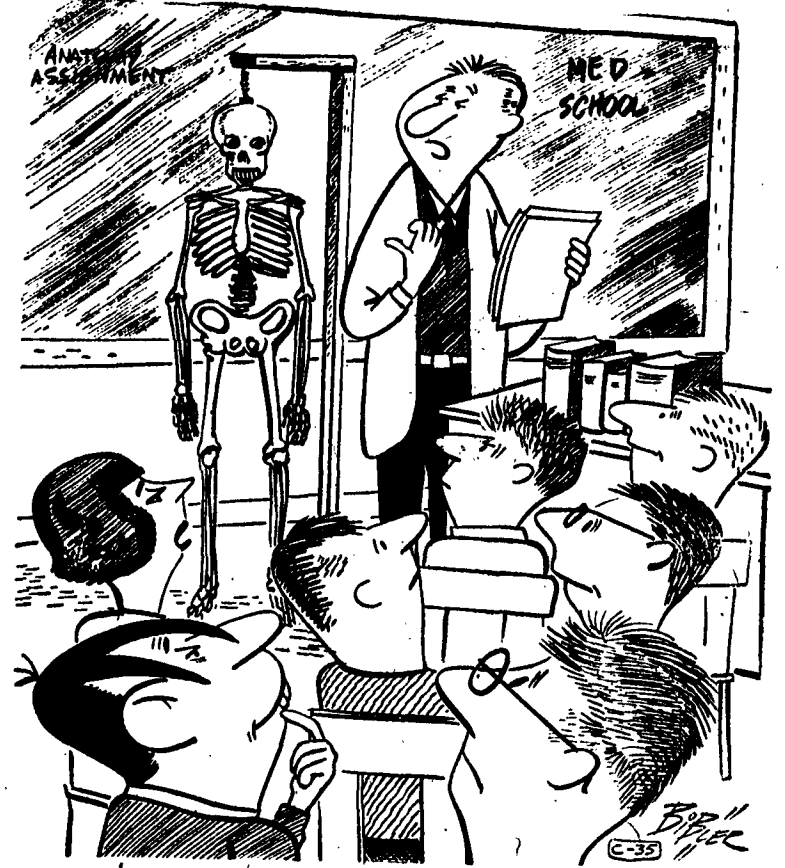
## TIM to Meet

Town Independent Men will hold an organizational meeting at 7:30 tonight in 218 Hetzel Union. Activities for the fall semester will be discussed, according to Robert Cole, president.

Any independent man living in town may attend the meeting.

## Little Man on Campus

By Bibler



A left-over from Sigma Phi Nothing's Hell week.

## Centennial Lore

# Some 60 Publications Have 'Hit' Campus

By JUDY HARKISON

More than 60 literary publications have been edited at the University in the past 100 years. The journalistic endeavors began way back in 1859 when the first students arrived on campus.

The early Literary Societies originated the idea of presenting a weekly paper with writings devoted to declamations, music, the reading of original essays, and debating. "Anonymous," a little hand written sheet, usually poked fun at daily happenings, and were rarely serious.

In 1887, the first issue of the "Free Lance," a forerunner to the Daily Collegian, was received by a group of boisterous students and given an inaugural march down College Avenue. This issue was the size of Time magazine, with a blue board cover and printed in two columns.

However, the "Free Lance" lived only for 17 years. Editors found the monthly deadline impossible to meet, and students' appetite for stale campus news became slack. The publication was buried in 1904, but only to be succeeded by the "State Collegian" the next fall. The final transformation of the "Collegian" occurred in 1940, when it became the Daily Collegian and was published five times a week.

The 25 members of the class of '90 edited the first LaVie. This volume did not contain portraits of the graduates, but did include advertising, promoting the sale of anything from Sturtevant Steam Engines to Fox's Superior Flaked Oats.

The "Lemon," a magazine 4 1/2 by 6 inches and printed on yellow paper, "will direct the streams of astringent juice at those things in and about the college campus... that need betterment or abolishment," said the lead article in the first issue, 1906. The publication was issued anonymously, and once the "Lemon Squeezer" was published as a criticism and reproof of the yellow-covered magazine in order to throw snoopers off the track.

As an antidote for the defunct "Lemon," Froth began, and proved to be a perfect example of unregulated free enterprise. Its staff

members divided the profits, when any, among themselves, passed on debts to their successors, and chose their own faculty censor.

Four literary magazines, "El Dorado," "The Old Main Bell," "Portfolio," and "Inkling" lasted only a few years, perhaps due to the insufficient number of would-be authors.

University women in 1924 edited "The Lion's Tale," which was enthusiastically received by the fair sex. It was, however, vigorously opposed by the Daily Collegian staff, and, in 1943, was discontinued.

Also at this time, "The Penn State Engineer," "The Penn State Farmer," and the Student Handbook were originated, and are still distributed on campus today.

## University Will Be Among 36 Colleges In Student Aid Plan

The University will be included in the College Relations Program of American Viscose Corporation for the academic year 1955-56.

The program is designed to encourage the study of science, engineering and business administration.

Nineteen fellowships, given for graduate work, have been established in the fields of chemistry, accounting, chemical engineering, and pulp technology.

Nineteen scholarships, awarded primarily to undergraduates entering their junior year, are divided among chemistry, engineering, physics, textiles, accounting, chemical engineering, business administration, textile technology, and mechanical engineering.

Actual selection of recipients is left to the faculty of each institution participating, and the individuals selected are not under obligation to the corporation. Thirty-six colleges have been invited to take part.

## Showers Are Forecast

Scattered showers and thunderstorms are expected for this afternoon. There will be continued cloudiness and warm weather.

Yesterday's high was 82 and the low 63. Today's weather data was compiled by Lesley Tarleton, junior in meteorology from Drexel Hill.

## Tonight on WDFM

91.1 MEGACYCLES	
7:31	Sign On
7:35	AP News
7:30	Stand-By
8:00	Open to Question
8:30	Phi Mu Alpha Presents
9:00	Call Card News
9:15	Light Classical
10:35	Sign Off