

# Chapel Furnishings Are Seniors' Gift

The Class of 1955 presented approximately \$10,000 to the University last night to be used for pews and furnishings for the nave of the Helen Eakin Eisenhower Chapel.

Donald Balthaser, senior class president, presented the class gift to Adrian O. Morse, provost, during the Class Night exercises in Schwab Auditorium.

The seniors had made their selection by ballot from five proposed gifts suggested by members of their own class. The other suggestions were social television facilities, rebuilding of a recreation lodge, a centennial monument, and an endowment fund for the library.

### Third Gift to Chapel

This is the third year that the class gifts have been contributed toward the chapel project. The Classes of 1954 and 1953 suggested that their gifts be used for the chancel and a stained glass window, organ or chimes.

William Luyben, chemical engineering major, gave the valedictorian at the exercises. Bruce Schwalm, an agricultural engineering major, gave the salutatorian address. Luyben and Schwalm were at first reported to have a tie in scholastic averages. However, further research revealed that Luyben has a 2.94776 All-University average and Schwalm has a 2.940 average.

### Paul Smith Trophy

The Paul Smith trophy was awarded to the outstanding senior in the physical education curriculum on a basis of scholarship, character, and extra curricular activities. Patricia Farrell, vice president of the Physical Education Student Council, presented the trophy to the president of the council, Donald Bell.

Paul Smith was an outstanding boxer at the University and died while he was a student.

Robert Dennis, arts and letters major, received the Hetzel Memorial Award. It was given on the basis of scholarship, character, and activities. Wilmer E. Kenworthy, director of student affairs, made the presentation.

### Eleven Honored for Service

Eleven seniors were honored during the ceremonies for their service to the student body. They were selected by their classmates from a group of 55 outstanding seniors chosen by the Class Night committee. Each senior that was honored received a golden charm symbolic of his title.

John Speer, All-University vice president and master of ceremonies, presented Donald Balthaser, senior class president, with a hand charm as the Class Donor for men's honors. Balthaser, in turn, introduced Jesse Arnelle, All-University President, as Spoon Man.

Arnelle in turn presented Barrel Man Ronald Weidenhammer, president of the Athletic Association. Weidenhammer introduced Cane Man Robert Homan, All-University secretary-treasurer, who gave a golden pipe to John Carpenter. Carpenter, president of the Interfraternity Council, delivered the humorous Pipe Oration.

Gail Smith, managing editor of LaVie, was introduced by Speer as Class Donor for Women's Honors. Miss Smith, in turn, introduced Joyce Shusman, president of Mortar Board, as Bow Girl. Arrelia Arre, member of Judicial, received a slipper charm, and Polly Moore, treasurer of the Pan-Hellenic Council, was given a fan charm.

### Ellis Gives Class Poem

Patricia Ellis, president of the Women's Student Government Association, who gave the class poem received a quill as class poet. Miss Ellis introduced Faith Gallagher as the Mirror Girl, who gave the mirror oration.

The Statesmen, a quartette composed of Ralph Cryder, Roger Staub, James Holmes, and Andy Zerban, and organist Roy Clark provided the music for the Class Night exercises.

### Centennial Booklet Now on Sale in HUB

A 48-page Centennial Booklet, illustrated with old and new pictures and including a history of the University, is now on sale in the Hetzel Union building and at other campus and downtown points.

Priced at 25 cents, the booklet, which is an official publication of the University, comes in an envelope to facilitate mailing.

## 5 Awarded Honors At Commencement

Five seniors received honor awards at commencement exercises on New Beaver Field this morning.

The five were among 101 seniors who graduated with honors at the exercises.

William Luyben, eighth semester chemical engineering major, and Bruce Schwalm, eighth semester agricultural engineering major, were honored as valedictorian and salutatorian of the graduating class at Class Night activities in Schwab Auditorium last night.

### McGrew Gets Medal

Carl McGrew, eighth semester physics major, received the John W. White Medal, awarded annually to a senior for outstanding scholarship.

The John W. White Fellowships were awarded to Alex Simkovich, eighth semester metallurgy major, and Sidney Goldblatt, eighth semester pre-medical major. The two \$600 fellowships are awarded for graduate study at the University or elsewhere on the basis of high scholastic attainment.

Two seniors were also awarded Evan Pugh Medals. The awards for academic achievement were presented to Aurelia Arre, eighth semester arts and letters major, and John Boyd, eighth semester education major.

### Class Marshals

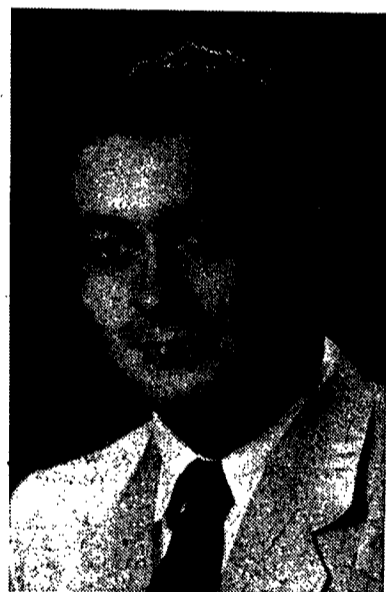
Also honored were the class marshals, who represented the classes of their respective colleges in the symbolic acceptance of diplomas from Dr. Milton S. Eisenhower, president of the University.

Marshals are Schwalm, Agriculture; Fred Zimmerman, Business Administration; Luyben, Chemistry and Physics; John Boyd, Education; David Overmier, Engineering and Architecture; Janice Holm, Home Economics; Miss Arre, Liberal Arts; Simkovich, Mineral Industries; and Martha Rojahn, Physical Education and Athletics.

John Carpenter, eighth semester arts and letters major, was marshal for men receiving commissions in the U.S. Army; Roy Clark, eighth semester arts and letters major, for men receiving Navy commissions; and Jack Conner, eighth semester metallurgy major, for men receiving commissions in the Air Force. James Starling, graduate student in agriculture, served as marshal for the Graduate School.



William Luyben Selected Valedictorian



Bruce Schwalm Named Salutatorian

# President Inspects New Atomic Reactor

President Dwight D. Eisenhower got a sneak preview of the University's new nuclear reactor today, prior to his scheduled commencement address at New Beaver Field.

The President, accompanied by his brother Dr. Milton S. Eisenhower, president of the University, and several members of the Board of Trustees, inspected the new building early today.

The reactor, which was dedicated on the University's 100th birthday in February by Admiral Lewis L. Strauss, is expected to be in operation in late summer or early fall.

### Visit President's Wish

The President had expressed a desire to see the new building, the second to be constructed on a college campus, and the visit was open only to members of the press.

The building was authorized by the Board of Trustees early in 1953 and was constructed by the University at a total cost of \$310,000. No outside funds were sought for the construction.

Enriched uranium, however, the vital substance necessary for its operation, will be allocated by the Atomic Energy Commission.

### Operates at 100 Kilowatts

It is expected that the initial operation of the reactor will be at a power of 100 kilowatts as compared to the 10 kilowatt "water boiler" type now in operation at North Carolina State College. The University's reactor will be of the "swimming pool" type, and is modeled after the Bulk Shielding Facility at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory.

Since the dedication in February, the electrical reactor and controls have been installed, and a demonstration of the operational process was conducted for the President.

## Library Display Notes Birthday

A Centennial Exhibit, consisting of photographs, letters, clippings, and other mementos of the University's 100-year history, is now on display in the lobby of the Pattee Library.

Arranged by the staff of the Penn State Rooms, center of a collection of Penn State lore started in 1904, the display is called "Ten Decades of Penn State." Each ten-year period is represented with special attention being given to the first and last ten years and to the records of the 50th and 75th anniversary celebrations.

Other items of special interest are many of the awards and honors which have been given to President Milton S. Eisenhower since his inauguration as the 11th president of the University in 1950. Also prominent are items noting the expansion of the institution since World War II, various alumni projects, and national athletic honors.

### '55 LaVie Honors Prexy

The 1955 LaVie, University yearbook, has been dedicated to President Milton S. Eisenhower by the senior class. The theme of the publication is built around the Centennial Year celebration.

## Diplomas Will Take On 'New Look'

The University broke with tradition this year when the diploma took on a "new look" at the centennial commencement exercises today.

Completely restyled diplomas were distributed to 1828 candidates for bachelor's and advanced degrees at 10:30 this morning at New Beaver Field.

Smaller size, simpler type and less elaborate text are keynotes of the "new look" sheepskins. They are enclosed in a blue leather case with gold lettering and the University's seal embossed on it. For this year only, the lettering "100th Anniversary" was added.

The case is lined with white satin and the diploma affixed by a blue and white ribbon, the University colors. The text is in simple Roman Architectural type and features simple words. The only decoration is the University seal.

For the first time in the University's 100-year history, a new type of degree was awarded at

commencement—an "associate in engineering," representing two years of work. The program was started two years ago.

Another break with tradition this year is the change from hand-engrossing of names, degrees, curricula, and dates on the diplomas to machine engrossing. For more than 30 years, William S. Hoffman, who retired as University registrar in 1949, lettered the diplomas. He had hand-lettered 50,000 sheepskins until illness forced him to give up the job last fall.

While the significance of the diploma as an educational symbol has remained unchanged, its physical appearance has altered considerably. The oldest diploma in the University's collection is dated 1865, four years after the first class was graduated.

The earliest diplomas bear the name of the Agricultural College of Pennsylvania. Originally known as the Farmer's High School of Pennsylvania, the name was changed in 1862.

The first diploma was elaborate-

ly engraved with ornate figures and symbols and had a flowery text presented in a combination of Old English type and script.

The diplomas had to be altered in 1874 when the Agricultural College of Pennsylvania became the Pennsylvania State College. The next change came in November, 1953, and the first diplomas to bear the name of the Pennsylvania State University were issued at the January, 1954, commencement exercises.

Since the first graduating class of 11 men in 1861, the University has granted a total of 56,426 degrees. The first master's degree was awarded in 1863 to Alfred C. Smith, '61 and the first doctor of philosophy degree went to Marsh W. White, professor of physics at the University, in 1926.

The task of preparing the diplomas is done by the office of C. O. Williams, Dean of Admissions and University registrar. Helping with the details are Robert M. Koser, assistant registrar; Helen Klein, chief recorder; and Ruth Kapp, assistant dean of admissions.

## Alum Group Low Rates End Today

Nearly one-third of today's graduating class have already joined the Penn State Alumni Association. Today is the last day in which students may obtain a reduced price in seeking their first year's membership.

In an announcement, Ridge Riley, secretary of the Alumni Association, re-emphasized the saving that could be affected by those interested in either a year's membership or life subscription to the organization. Students may register at the Alumni Office in Old Main.

Still available are special rates for seniors of \$2.00 for the first year and \$70.00 for a life membership, the latter of which may be paid in installments. After today, the rates become \$3.00 for each of the first five years after graduation and \$75.00 for a life membership.

Riley pointed out that alumni dues are used to maintain address and occupational files of more than 50,000 former students; share in the organization and operation of the Alumni Fund; publish a quarterly newspaper, the Penn Stater, for all graduates of the University; publish a magazine seven times each year, the Alumni News, and a Football Letter weekly during the season, both only for active members of the association; work with nearly 70 district clubs throughout the country; and sponsor occasions such as Homecoming in the fall and class reunions and the Alumni Institute in June.

The need for Alumni Association members to notify the Alumni Office of changes in address in order to keep the files up to date was explained by Riley. He urged students going into the service to keep in contact with the office so University news could follow them.

## 205 Awarded New Degree

For the first time, the University conferred associate degrees at the commencement exercises this morning in New Beaver Field.

Included in the nearly 2000 degree candidates were 205 students who have completed two-year courses at the various Penn State centers throughout the state. The candidates came to the campus to receive their degrees.

The majority received the degree of associate in engineering, having been enrolled in programs of electrical technology and of drafting and design technology. Eleven women were candidates for the degree of associate in secretarial science, having completed studies at Ogontz Center.

Candidates for the associate degrees wore royal blue caps and gowns to distinguish them from the recipients of bachelor's and advanced degrees who wore black caps and gowns.

### Ed, Home Ec Graduates Honored at Coffee Hours

Graduates from the Colleges of Education and Home Economics and their parents and friends were guests of honor at informal coffee hours this morning.

Members of the faculty of the College of Education were hosts to seniors from 8:30 to 9:45 a.m. in dining rooms A and B in the Hetzel Union Building.

The Home Ec coffee hour, sponsored by the faculty members, was held in the Home Economics Building Center from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m.