

# Library Exhibition Reveals Card Tricks Used by Fakers

A display in the upstairs hallway of Pattee Library, exposing the tricks used by card sharps and fake mentalists, has been attracting hundreds of curious students daily.

The novel show and all equipment used in the display belongs to Robert H. Little, better known as "The Wizard of Kappa Delta Rho."

The Wiz, a senior in journalism from Upper Darby, created the display for the University as his last bit of showmanship before his graduation in February.

In connection with the display, the Wizard is putting on an hour long magical show at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday for the next two weeks in the Nittany Lion Inn lounge.

Little has had a very colorful career in the world of magic and spiritualists. He got his start while he was still in high school through a neighbor, Paul Rosini, a reformed syndicate gambler of the roaring 20's.

Rosini started Wiz out on simple card maneuvers, and progressed up to the most difficult moves with a deck of cards. For further learning, the Wizard received tutoring from several magicians and mentalists in New York and Philadelphia. He practices several hours a day to polish up his routines.

The Wizard's training proved

to be a great benefit when he entered the Air Force in 1950. He was placed in the Civilian Intelligence Division to help break up crooked gambling casinos.

Dressed in civilian clothing, and with a pocketful of government money, he would visit the known gambling halls the service men frequented. It was his duty to observe the schemes used by the operators to bilk servicemen of their money while he himself managed to break even by outwitting the card sharps.

After the night's work, Wiz and his special service companions would go back to their office and plot out the night's activities. When a gambling hall had reached the "saturation point" in regards to the amount of money it had illegally taken in, the law agencies would be notified, and the place raided. In the court proceedings, Wiz would testify against the operators of the establishment.

After receiving a medical discharge from the Air Force in 1952, Little enrolled at the University. He spent his freshman year at Ogonitz center, arriving at the University in the spring of 1953.

No sooner had he settled

down than he began to publicize his presence. One day he hired a drummer to produce special effects, and strolling into the main lounge in Waring Hall, Wiz put on an impromptu show. After about 15 minutes, to the disappointment of the crowd that had gathered, "the manager asked us to leave," Wiz recalled.

His popularity caught on immediately, however. He performed a feature act in the first Thespian review, "Sunny Side Up," and again in this year's show, "Take Ten." Wiz also took third place in the annual talent show during his sophomore year.

For the past two years, Wiz has led his fraternity to first place in the Spring Carnival with his levitation trick and the broomstick illusion act.

After he graduates, Wiz hopes to introduce magic to the general public on a new level. His ambition is to become one of the greatest sleight of hand artists in modern magic.

Almost any afternoon, the Wizard can be found in the snack bar in the HUB putting on a show for students gathered for a coffee break. And amidst fluttering cards, disappearing coins, and baffling handkerchiefs, the Wiz

## Flocks of Robins, Banks of Snow, This Is Spring?

Even though large flocks of robins have been seen in Centre county, Spring isn't here.

When asked why many robins, which do not normally appear until warmer weather, have been seen, Dr. Merrill Wood, associate professor of zoology, explained that robins stay in Centre County every winter. They generally live in protected areas in the mountains but are not very plentiful, according to Dr. Wood.

These birds will probably survive now if there is no severe ice storm which covers the trees, Dr. Wood said. They will feed on berries from the trees and will go to bird feeders in private yards if the weather becomes bad.

Dr. Wood said he felt that the robins now in the Centre County area have migrated from Canada or upper New York state and are heartier birds than generally appear in this area.

### Collegian Candidates Meeting

Editorial candidates of The Daily Collegian will meet at 7 to-night in 9 Carnegie.

can be heard to exclaim, "Now watch this effect carefully, for you will remember it for the rest of your life." And you will too!

## HEc Council Will Present Spring Skits

Skits that will demonstrate end results of careers in home economics were suggested for the Home Economics Student Council exhibition at the Home Economics Spring Weekend, scheduled for April 21 and 22.

Luther Walbridge reported on plans for the exhibit at a council meeting last night.

In addition to the skits that will be presented at regularly scheduled times, throughout the weekend exhibits will be on display.

The Home Economics Spring Convocation will be held at 4 p.m. Feb. 21.

A suggestion was proposed that would enable students in the College of Home Economics to select a larger number of electives outside of their curriculum than they are now permitted. It was also suggested that a general evaluation of courses should be conducted in the College to determine whether or not there is too much over-lapping of courses. No action was taken on either suggestion.

Leslie Schultz was appointed Home Economics Student Council representative to the All-University Cabinet Committee investigating the possibility of a University-owned book store.

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STILL HAVE one double room for rent. Good location. Call AD 8-9460.

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FURNISHED APARTMENT needed by three grad students for immediate occupancy. Will sign year lease. Call Mr. Peiffer Univ. ext. 267H.

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RIDE TO Dartmouth College or vicinity about Jan. 30. Call Paul Felton at AD 7-3181.

### LOST

CROSBY WRIST Watch, initials J.M.B. on back. In Eng B. Reward. John Behne AD 7-4971.

### FOUND

ONE BLACK leather man's glove between Moffitt Cottage and Sparks. Contact Roy Prescott, Alpha Zeta. AD 7-7621.

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