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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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## Presenting: Really a Wondrous Person

Dear President of My Favorite Hat Society:  
Please consider this my application for membership in your hat society. I'm a real good guy. And I'm in just about everything except your Hat Society. I'm tappable.

This fictional example of an application to a male hat society, while somewhat exaggerated, isn't too far removed from some of the communications hat societies request and receive every spring.

But until this spring, when a new system for finding members of hat societies goes into effect, any male student who wanted to wear a hat had to subject himself to the humiliation of tapping out such a letter.

Under the new system, adopted this week by Hat Society Council for all men's hat groups and slated to go into effect on March 1, male students may fill out cards listing their activities in their freshman year.

As the student acquires new activities, he will be able to add them to the list on his card which will be kept on file at the Hetzel Union desk.

Then, when the tapping system comes, presi-

dents of hat societies will go through the cards in the file and consider all students as potential candidates for hats.

The new system has advantages. It will allow hat groups to consider all men for membership, not only those who go through the process of writing a "Dear President" letter.

Being tapped will come as a surprise to the tappee, thereby increasing, it seems, the honor that membership in a hat society is supposed to contain. Likewise, the candidate who doesn't win himself a hat will not be as disappointed as he was likely to be in the past.

What's more, with a greater amount of time available to study the cards, hat societies can weed out those who pad their cards with fictitious memberships in activities they never participated in. The hat societies will be able to check now, instead of assuming, about the honesty of the candidate.

No longer will potential hat society tappees have to candidly describe that wondrous person, themselves. And no longer will hat societies have to wonder just how wondrous the applicant is.

—The Editor

## Scoffers: Like to Play Tennis?

Those who would scoff at student government received a setback early this week.

The announcement Tuesday that student recreational facilities will soon be provided on the golf course where the present varsity lacrosse and soccer practice areas are located is the direct result of student recommendations.

The 1955 Student Encampment Committee on Recreation and Social Aspects proposed this very action in the fall. Previous to this proposal the Association of Independent Men and other student groups campaigned for such additional recreation areas.

The student groups who are largely responsible for the soon-to-be-provided recreation areas contended that such facilities would lessen the likelihood of party raids and other student demonstrations in the West Dorm area.

Such demonstrations have become almost an annual occurrence in the spring and have resulted in much adverse publicity for the University and the suspension of several students.

AIM, the Encampment Committee, and other student groups reasoned that handy playing fields where students could "blow off steam" would be a big step toward preventing mob gatherings in addition to providing a much needed service to the student body. It is evident that University officials considered these student proposals logical and worthwhile.

Eight to 10 softball diamonds and eight to 10 tennis courts will spring up on the present varsity practice areas on the golf course. The soccer and lacrosse squads will shift their practice to an area behind the Nittany Dorms pending the construction of locker facilities.

The tennis courts and softball fields are sure to find favor with the students who are so sorely in need of these facilities. We hope that the students will remember who was responsible for the added recreation area and recognize that their various student government agencies are a valuable means through which their problems can be solved.

—Mike Miller

## Safety Valve

### Double Jeopardy: Hasty?

TO THE EDITOR: Granted we have the system of double jeopardy present in many of our institutions of life. Granted that Penn State has this system. However, there is one important factor overlooked at State.

The rapidity with which justice is dispensed by the University concerning an outside civil action tends to indicate that there is very little or no time taken to determine whether or not the offense was detrimental to the good name of the University. This may be good for the University's record but it is hardly fair to the student involved.

Setting up standards of punishment for certain types of misdemeanors is an efficient and admirable means of dispensing justice but it is more admirable to be certain that the misdemeanor in question has brought discredit to the University and its student body before passing sentence.

—Alastair Rutherford

### What About the Ratio?

TO THE EDITOR: A few years ago, because of the obvious inequity of a situation in which a fraternity man would oppose an independent in an All-University election, the precedent was set to run three independents and two fraternity men for the five Cabinet posts in the spring election one year, and to reverse the arrangement on alternate years.

Last year, because of inability, incompetence, or downright lack of initiative on the part of the clique officers, this procedure was not followed. It was explained that "they just couldn't find three good independents who would run." At the time, we were given the assurance that this injustice would be rectified in this year's elections.

Now we are told in a brief announcement by the chairman of the Elections Committee that both clique chairmen have agreed that, for the third year in a row, we will have three fra-

### Up to the Seniors

TO THE EDITOR: The Library is a collection of books. The true University is a collection of books.

Pattee Library is lacking. It lacks adequate funds, in number of books, and in special features. It is not nearly as large as the libraries of schools comparable in enrollment. Universities one-fourth the size of Penn State have libraries superior to Pattee. Funds for the purchase of books for the library have been neglected in the past and are still not sufficient to make up for this past neglect.

At present the library has an opportunity to obtain a valuable and well known collection of manuscripts. The rating of the library and the prestige of the University would be greatly enhanced by the acquisition of such a collection.

The writings and manuscripts of Edgar Lee Masters, author of "Spoon River Anthology", if obtained would be such an asset. Masters, a native Pennsylvanian, corresponded with many leading figures of the late nineteenth century up to the present. Masters' widow teaches at Ogontz Center.

The Senior Class, with \$10,000 at its disposal, could not find a more worthwhile investment for its class gift. Such a gift would increase the scholastic horizon and attract academically inclined students to the University.

To quote a past Collegian editorial, "Are Penn State students illiterate and lowbrow?" It is up to the seniors to show they are not.

—Al Jordan

ternity men and two independents in these posts!

In allowing this gross violation of representative government, the Elections Committee is shirking its clear-cut duty to decide on this issue.

What right have these two men, who have no position in student government, to determine arbitrarily what the distribution of Cabinet officers will be?

—Lash Howes

## Gazette

Today  
HILLEL INTERFAITH SERVICE, 1 p.m., Hillel  
LUTHER STUDENT ASSOCIATION LENTEN DISCUSSION AND SOCIAL, 7 p.m.  
NEWMAN CLUB OPEN HOUSE, 7 p.m., Student Center

University Hospital  
Robert Archibald, Michael Kubica, Robert McKee, Robert McNeil, George MacCubbin, Joan Perry, Robert Pray, Mary Royce, Karl Schwensfeier, Michael Shapiro, Jakob Stekol, Dale Weiler, and Paul Brana.

## Little Man on Campus By Bibler



—Worth the Risk?

## Maneuvers Continue In Southeast Asia

By J. M. ROBERTS

Associated Press News Analyst

Military experts set considerable store by maneuvers, especially where an effort is being made to coordinate different forces, such as now is being made in Southeast Asia.

There is a question, however, whether the military benefits of the current operation will be sufficient to offset its probable political damage.

Asiatics will be quick to notice that, although Thailand is the chief operations center, only two small Asiatic nations are participating, that these have been armed by the United States, and that while Britain, Australia and New Zealand are active, the great proportion of strength involved is American.

France did not accept her invitation to join in, and Washington sought to explain the absence of Pakistan, the other member of the Southeast Asia Pact, by saying she received her invitation too late. The explanation came amid reports that Pakistan is wavering in her allegiance to the world anti-Communist front.

United States naval forces have been active in the South China Sea along the lanes from Japan and Okinawa, in the Gulf of Siam along with British Commonwealth forces and on land in Thailand with Filipino infantry. All air forces are joined.

The United States also has chosen this time for a big Marine practice attack on Iwo Jima, the island south of Japan for which the Marine Corps paid 6000 lives in World War II.

All this military activity makes the rest of Asia itchy. In India, particularly, there is a dislike of military emphasis in the cold war. Burma and India feel strongly against the Southeast Asia Pact, accepting the Communist line that military pacts lead to war.

Red China, of course, is taking advantage of the opportunity to spread this propaganda.

In the meantime, observers are pretty well agreed that propaganda and economics now provide the battlefield between communism and the West in Asia, although the possibility of further military adventures by Red China are not entirely discounted.

Thailand, South Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos are glad of SEATO.

The rest of Asia, however, is inclined to look at Western military forces as part of the survival of colonialism, and as provocative to the Communist bloc.

Coinciding with a sluggish congressional reaction to the administration's proposals for increased and long-term economic aid pro-

grams, this is no time for leaving any impression that the West's chief reliance is force.

## RW Fellowship Plans Fun Night

The Roger Williams Fellowship will have a Fun Night at 8 tonight in the Roger Williams Student Center.

A Lenten discussion based on C. S. Lewis' book, Mere Christianity, has been scheduled by the Lutheran Student Association for 7 tonight.

The Newman Club will hold a Television and Scrabble Party at 8 tonight in the Catholic Student Center.

The Rev. Jean D'Andre, pastor of a Philadelphia church and graduate of the University, will speak at a meeting of the Inter-Varsity Christian Fellowship at 7:30 tonight in 405 Old Main. The meeting is open to the public.

The Sabbath Eve Services at 8 tonight at Hillel Foundation have been designated in honor of the opening of Brotherhood Week. The guest speaker at the service will be Dr. Robert E. Dengler, Professor Emeritus of Greek.

## Bicycle Accident Injures Freshman

A freshman coed was struck by a bicycle while en route to the dormitories at about 8:15 last night.

The coed, Catherine Hoika, a freshman in home economics from Beaver Falls, was taken to the University Hospital where she remained overnight. Her condition was listed as good.

According to a report from witnesses, the girl was struck by the bicycle on Pollock road and fell against a nearby car. The bicycle rider is unidentified.

## Tonight on WDFM

91.1 MEGACYCLES  
7:25 Sign On  
7:30 Just for Two  
8:30 News Roundup  
9:30 Light Classical Jukebox  
10:30 Thought for Today  
10:35 Sign Off