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The Daily Collegian

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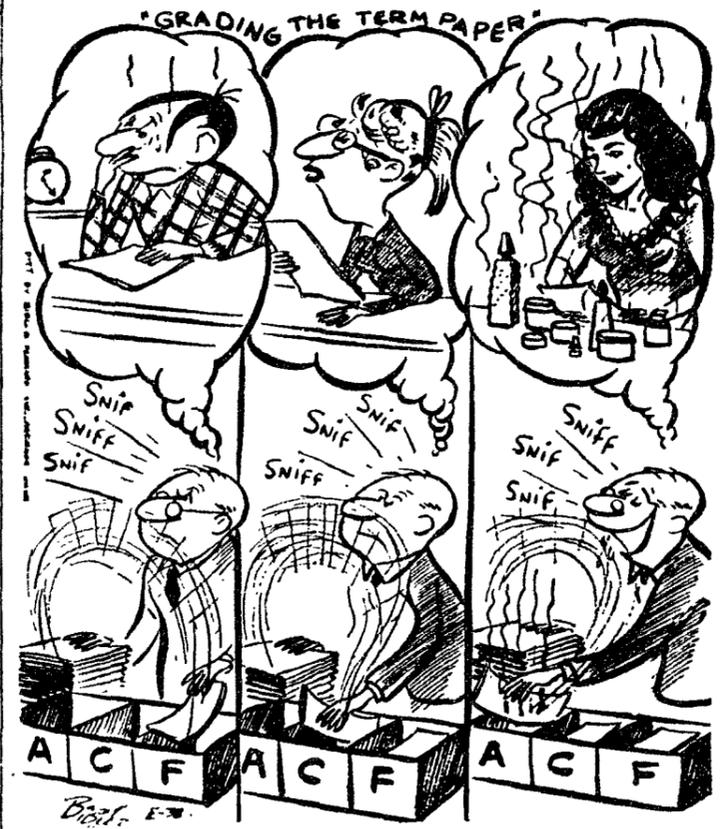
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Little Man on Campus By Bibler



Let's Wait Until We Kill a Pledge

The nation's fraternity system is under fire this week—and for good reason. For it is the fraternity system which must take the blame for the tragic and inexcusable death of 18-year-old Thomas L. Clark, a freshman at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He was found Friday, drowned under the ice of a reservoir.

As part of his initiation into Delta Kappa Epsilon, Clark was awakened at midnight on Feb. 9 and was driven into the country some ten miles from his fraternity. Blindfolded, he was dropped off and told to make his way back to the campus by 8 a.m. the next day.

Apparently in the dark Clark mistook the three-mile long ice covered reservoir for an open field. He broke through the ice several hundred yards from shore. Drowning caused his death.

The incredible and frightening aspect of this tragedy is that it was not a case of over-enthusiastic hazing. The hazing practice—taking a pledge for a ride and dumping him—is not unusual; only the consequences of this specific incident were.

Dr. James R. Killian Jr., president of M.I.T., expressed the school's "sympathy and overwhelming regret" about Clark's death. Delta Kappa Epsilon national officials said they had long been opposed to "any activity of initiation that might result in accident. DKE officials promised that this policy would in the future be vigorously pursued."

The president of M.I.T., too, promised to abolish aspects of the fraternity system that made such tragedies possible.

Clark's "fraternity mates were completely innocent of any conscious negligence," Dr. Killian said. "They, too," he explained, "were victims of long-practiced traditions and procedures which, it is now clear, cannot be condoned in this institute or any other, in dormitories or in fraternities."

We consider this statement by Dr. Killian just as applicable to Penn State as it is to M.I.T., just as pertinent as if Thomas Clark were a freshman here, just as necessary as if his body had been fished from Whipple's Dam last Friday.

Penn State must not wait until it happens

here. Clark's initiation prank was not noticeably different than pranks staged every week here. If anything, the M.I.T. stunt was milder than some with a Penn State locale.

Pledges here kidnap brothers and take them for rides. Brothers here overpower pledges and take them for rides. Fraternities here send pledges without cars to distant cities.

This is all done in the name of spirit. It builds unity. It molds men. It breeds brotherhood.

And it may someday cause a death. Will this, then, be "conscious negligence"? Or will this be another reflection of a system which makes such tragedies possible?

Aren't the two really the same? Isn't the fraternity system itself guilty of gross negligence—and arrogant ignorance—if it allows sophomoric behavior, which gets out of hand and becomes dangerous and which reflects dishonor on the brothers, the fraternity, the fraternity system, and the University?

It is nonsensical to ask "Can something be done about it?" Of course, something can. The University can do what Dr. Killian says M.I.T. will do: "Use every means and power at its disposal to eliminate those excesses associated with hazings or initiations which might possibly lead to accidents, which are physically or mentally hazardous, or which are unbecoming to students of maturity and to an institution . . ."

But this is within the area of Interfraternity Council's duty and jurisdiction. It would be a sad commentary on IFC if it should choose to ignore the excesses carried on in the name of brotherhood building, and merely await administrative action.

A mild pre-initiation code was proposed and promptly defeated by IFC on March 21, 1955. The vote was 25 to 22 with two abstentions. In the wake of the awakened interest in fraternity excesses now expressing itself all over the country, IFC would be wise to reconsider the question.

It can risk ignoring the need for curbs on over-enthusiastic fraternities. Penn State certainly can afford to wait until there's a pledge death here.

Sure, it can.

The Editor

Safety Valve

Cramming Isn't Educational

TO THE EDITOR: We, Donald Chalmers, The Engineering Student Council, and myself, hardly intended to do away with the University, fire any mean professors, prohibit the giving of blue books, etc. We only intended to show some respect for those individuals who have reached that paramount eighth semester. Don't we show respect for our students who reach the all elusive 3.5 average?

Now to the subject of studying for final exams. How many students do anything but cram for finals? Do you? It is conceivable that you can have four finals in 36 hours and not have an actual conflict? It has happened and probably will continue to happen. Can you actually study these subjects "to see the course as a complete unit and not as just disjointed bits of information?" Or are you under such a nervous strain that all you tend to do is confuse that information you have already gained?

I do not want to "deprive the eighth semester students of an academic activity they should not miss." Most of the subjects that graduating seniors are taking are within their chosen field so they would want comprehensive review. If a review of the course is required (and I believe it is) just once (the eighth semester) couldn't the last two class sessions be taken up for this purpose? Certainly more could be accomplished in this manner than in the cramming hours at home.

Finally . . . What do professors think of finals? Many professors are prone to count the

Gazette

- Today
- ARNOLD AIR SOCIETY, 7:30 p.m., Delta Upsilon, class A uniform
 - BELLES LETTRES, 7 p.m., Atherton Lounge
 - CHRISTIAN SCIENCE ORGANIZATION, 7 p.m., 304 Old Main
 - DAILY COLLEGIAN ADVERTISING STAFF, 7 p.m., 9 Carnegie
 - DAILY COLLEGIAN BUSINESS CANDIDATES, 7 p.m., 317 Willard
 - DAILY COLLEGIAN PROMOTION STAFF, 6:30 p.m., 108 Willard
 - FIVE O'CLOCK THEATER, Little Theater, Old Main
 - FRESHMAN COUNCIL, 6:30 p.m., 213 Hetzel Union
 - FROTH ART STAFF AND CANDIDATES, 7 p.m., Froth office, Hetzel Union basement
 - FROTH BUSINESS STAFF DIRECTORS, 7:45 p.m., Froth office, Hetzel Union basement
 - RED CROSS COMMITTEE, 8 p.m., 218 Hetzel Union
 - CENTRAL PROMOTION AGENCY senior board, 7 p.m., CPA office

STUDENT EMPLOYMENT

The following camps will conduct interviews at the Student Employment Agency, 112 Old Main. Interested students may sign up for interviews there.

- CAMP WISE, Feb. 23
- CAMP HIRAM HOUSE, Feb. 24 and 25
- PHILADELPHIA YMCA, March 7
- CAMP WOODLANDS, March 10
- CAMP CONRAD WEISER, March 13 and 14
- CAMP MENATOMA, March 14 and 15

University Hospital

Bernard Actman, Gerald Althouse, Albert Blackhurst, Irvin Fessler, William Hess, Charles Schooley, Richard Simmermacher, Margaret Thomas, Fred Trust, James Wyatt, and John D'Angelo.

final of little, they're never sure how much, or no value. Those professors who rely solely on the final exam for a grade are doing their students a great injustice.

●Letter cut

—Byron J. Smith

Frosh Choose Queen Finalists

The five finalists for Freshman Queen have been announced by the Freshman Advisory Board.

Finalists are Filippa DeMatteo, freshman in arts and letters from Curtisville; Karin Dejuhasz, freshman in music education from Heidelberg, Germany; Priscilla Doll, freshman in education from York; Arlene Kondor, freshman in arts and letters from Morrisville; and Patricia Reno, freshman in arts and letters from Forest Hills.

The Queen will be chosen by applause during intermission at the Frosh Hop, Friday from 9 p.m. to midnight in the Hetzel Union ballroom.

The finalists and six members of the Advisory Board will be interviewed over WDFM Friday.

Kramer Appointed Greek Week Head

Edward Kramer of Phi Epsilon Pi fraternity, has been named general chairman for Greek Week, and seven committee chairmen have been appointed.

They are: George Smith, Tau Kappa Epsilon, work project; George Remney, Theta Chi, exchange dinner; David Richards, Kappa Delta Rho, publicity; William Mills, Phi Mu Delta, IFC sing; Thomas Hollenbach, Sigma Nu, Greek Sunday; David Friedenberg, Alpha Epsilon Pi, banquets.

Music for the Frosh Hop will be provided by the Lamp Lighters. Joan MacKenzie, sophomore in arts and letters from Lansdowne, will be vocalist.

Camera Club Offers Course

Registration for a three session course in elementary photography sponsored by the Penn State Camera Club opens today at the Hetzel Union desk.

The first session of this course which is designed to give the basic rules in good picture-taking will be held March 23, according to Joseph W. Rohrbaugh, Jr., president.

Registration for the free course which is open to students and faculty will continue until Feb. 29.

John P. Driscoll, assistant professor of audio-visual education, will speak at the club meeting at 7 tonight in 214 Hetzel Union.

Frosh Council to Meet

Freshman Council will meet at 6:30 tonight in 213 Hetzel Union.

On Assignment

Inside Old Main

By RON WALKER

If you're in the habit of checking your watch by Old Main's bells, watch out. Several times last week we got mixed up when our watch didn't exactly jive with Old Main, and it got so out of hand one day that our prof almost let us out 15 minutes too early. Of course, we let the whole thing go by without comment because

things like that, we figure, are bound to happen now and then. But the other night we distinctly heard five bells when it was only two in the morning. That shook us up a little, and prompted our investigation into the matter.

The man who's in charge of the chimes is located in the Physical Plant department in Old Main and goes by the name of Robert Knouse. We were in to see him the other day and he quickly straightened the whole thing out for us.

"Yes," he told us, "quite a few persons noticed it. The trouble started about a week ago when the striking contact became worn, and other complications naturally set in. You know, of course, that there aren't any bells up there at all, don't you? The chime itself hits a tuning fork and the sound is amplified over the campus."

We assured him that we indeed knew about it, because one day last Spring as we made the hike up to the tower in Old Main, quarter-to-five's bells practically knocked us back down the steps.

Thank you, Mr. Knouse, for clarifying the matter. The bells in Old Main are practically an institution around this place, and we can't have the clock reading quarter to eleven and the bells only giving out with ten thirty. Some of our classes are ridiculously boring and 15 minutes more would be just about all we could take.

From The Centre Daily Times of Feb. 18:

"At 10 p.m. it was more snowballing as police checked a complaint from Phi Sigma Kappa fraternity that two small boys had knocked on the door and pelted the student who answered with snowballs . . ."

OK, you Phi Sig's: when one of those State College street urchins does it again, turn him over to IFC. They'll know what to do with him.

PERSONALITY OF THE WEEK
Hidden way up on the fourth floor of Old Main is, among other things, the LaVie office, and its staff is going all out now to meet the deadline. The fellow responsible for the picture scheduling problems in that organization is, of all people, the scheduling editor, Skip Witmer, and he told us the other day "my room phone stays busy all the time, day and night. It's quite a job getting different groups and individuals together for pictures, you know." "The one I remember best," he continued, "concerns the time we had to get the TIM group to-

gether for a retake. When we finally did get it taken, one of their officials practically demanded the other copies, and wanted to know why we didn't give them more space in the book. I've seen bigger pictures on postage stamps," he said. Not only that, he wanted to know who drew up the layout, who took the pictures, and how he could go about complaining to the editor. But things like that don't happen all the time. Actually, it's been a lot of fun."

THAT MYSTERIOUS AND OFTEN STRAIGHTFORWARD FAR EAST DEPT.

The following classified ads appeared in the Jan. 21, 1956, issue of The Times of Vietnam, and we quote in full:

SECRETARY WANTED
Secretary wanted. American firm own office Saigon requires secretary typist speaking and writing English. Write full details of experience etc. to P.O. Box 96. **WANTED!!**
English-Speaking Secretary and "Girl Friday." Write P.O. Box

Saturday night of March 3rd shapes up into just about the best athletic program of the year, as Pitt's heralded wrestlers invade Rec Hall to meet the Lion gapplers, and from all indications, you'll have to fight for a seat.

The Pitt-Penn State match has been building up steam all season, as both teams vied to see who could outscore the other. We'll probably see an overflow of Pitt fans in the stands, and wouldn't at all be surprised if Lehigh sent a delegation. To us, this match is the outstanding athletic event of the indoor season and we wouldn't miss it for the world.

Being an out-of-stater, it amazed us at first how they packed them in for wrestling meets here, but now that we've become so interested in the sport, we can easily see why. Wrestling News picked Pitt third in the nation last week, and Penn State fourth. Things'll have to be changed around, we think, after March 3rd.

Oh yes, the basketball team meets Pitt right after the wrestling meet.

Tonight on WDFM

- 91.1 MEGACYCLES
- 7:25 Sign On
 - 7:30 Philip Wein Show
 - 8:30 Phi Mu Alpha
 - 9:00 Top Drawer
 - 9:15 News
 - 9:30 This World of Music
 - 10:30 Sign Off