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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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Five Ways to Keep Your Pledges Living

What are fraternity excesses? This question must be answered by the Interfraternity Council's pre-initiation code committee, which is expected to be appointed this week.

Rational opinion in most quarters is that excesses in Hell Weeks and other pledge treatment exist and must be curbed. This opinion has been expressed often on campus and throughout the nation since the death of Thomas L. Clark, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology freshman who died as the result of an ordinary fraternity prank.

In a letter to The Daily Collegian last week, Interfraternity Council President Robert Bullock pointed out that IFC has discussed the problem for the past two years. "I feel certain that concrete action will be taken this year..." he said.

We hope Bullock is right. For if concrete action does not come from IFC, we feel sure it will come from the University. The reason: concrete action is long-past due. Discussion is not enough.

The first step the code committee must take is to determine the boundaries of fraternity practices involving pledges.

This will not be easy. A code drawn up last year was defeated 25 to 22 because fraternities felt it was worded too loosely and would open the way to overly strict interpretations in the future.

Yet, because practices vary so widely among fraternities, any code, to be workable, must be general.

Five general boundaries which should be outlined in the new code are:

1. Hazing practices must be confined to inside the fraternity house.

This provision would eliminate some of the excesses caused by over-enthusiastic hazing. It would partly remove fraternity criticism from the neighbors of fraternity houses. Thomas Clark would be alive today if this rule had been in effect at M.I.T.

2. Hazing practices must end at 2 a.m.

This provision would eliminate another long-standing complaint about Hell Weeks: frat-

ernity pledges sleep in class. It also would cut Hell Week's health hazards stemming from a lack of sleep.

3. Pledges must have opportunity for at least eight hours of sleep or study each night.

This provision, which was included in the code prepared last year, would eliminate another chief faculty complaint about Hell Week: that pledges lose a lot of learning.

4. Pledges must be provided with automobiles when sent on trips to other chapters.

This provision makes simple sense. Sending pledges on trips via hitch-hiking is dangerous and hitch-hiking is illegal.

5. Intense hazing periods may last no longer than three days.

A week-long Hell Week is too long. It is the length of Hell Week more than any other aspect which breaks the health of the pledge going through it.

Fraternities will not greet these proposals with screams of approval. They will, instead, probably mutter about "interference with internal affairs."

A pre-initiation practices code is indeed interference with internal affairs. But it is only one instance of many such interferences. Fraternities, like any household, must obey the laws of the borough, the state, and the nation. They must obey the laws of the University. They must obey the laws of IFC itself, such as the provisions of the social code.

Such interference has become necessary because fraternities have demonstrated they cannot adequately control themselves. This was their original mistake.

Their second mistake would be to reject self-control through measures advocated by their own group. This mistake will be made if fraternities fail to adopt a pre-initiations code for the consecutive third year.

In such a failure, the fraternities will, by default, invite the University to regulate them.

The choice is no longer between regulating or not regulating hazing excesses. The choice is between self-regulation, coming from IFC, or outside regulation, coming from the University.

—The Editor

Long Gone Gravy Train and No Engineer

An oft-heard cry against student government is that it accomplishes little of benefit to the average student. In some respects this charge is true.

But the blame for this alleged ineffectualness is usually attributed entirely to the few who actively participate in student government. And in some instances such blame is justified.

But often—more often—the blame lies with those who level the charges, but do nothing more than talk and expect an over-worked few to champion their cause.

A case in point: Since his inauguration last April All-University President Earl Seely has been attempting to get a student food committee functioning. The purpose of the committee, which would be responsible to All-University Cabinet, would be to receive student complaints regarding the food service, channel them to the food service, and work toward the solution of the reported gripes.

Judging from the almost innumerable student complaints regarding dormitory food, many of which are quite valid, this committee potentially could do much to serve all the dormitory residents.

But at this writing, with Seely's term nearing its end, the food committee has been a complete failure. It has existed on paper only. The reason for the failure: no student could be found to chair the committee.

It is easy to condemn Seely and Cabinet for this failing. After all, it is one of his duties to appoint students to Cabinet committees and

the committees are responsible to Cabinet. But such quick condemnation would be grossly unjust.

Seely has made repeated efforts to get one of Penn State's approximately 11,500 students to accept the position. One finally accepted but was forced to resign for personal reasons before the committee could get functioning. It took months to ferret out this one interested student. Months more have passed and another has not applied.

This, we contend, is not the fault of Seely or his Cabinet. Students should not have to be begged to accept the responsibility to solve their own problems. One cannot always depend on another to lead him by the hand. The fault lies with the 11,500.

It must be realized that neither one man nor a small group of interested, but over-worked, people can adequately carry the load for thousands. Student government needs many interested students to function effectively and those active in it will be the first to admit this. It's early in the semester. How about it?

—Mike Miller

Stacked Statistic . . .

Why rave about the ratio? So it's 3.3 to 1. It used to be 2.6 to 1. Twenty years from now it might be 6 to 1. So?

Men still complain about women.
Women still complain about men.
Women sit in on Saturday nights.
Men prowl around on Saturday nights.
Dating is at its all-time low. Fraternities try to have more mixers. Independents try to mix more dormitories. But no luck. The sexes won't mix.

The 3.3 men are not enough interested in the 1.0 woman to put up much of a fight to get her. And she's certainly not going out of her way to find the 1:1 man that rightfully belongs to her.

So things are at a standstill. And what do we do? We advertise the ratio. We play it up. We joke about it. But do we ever do anything about it? No!

We should do something. We must take steps. But what? Should we encourage the men? Shame the women? Send men away? Import women?

But we could not send men away without causing the University economic chaos. We could not import women without causing same. The answer is to trade some of our 3.3 men to a woman's college for an equal quantity of women. This is the only solution.

It will make it easier for men to find dates. It will make women keep on their toes to meet the competition. It can't fail.

Ratio will become defunct. Equilibrium will take its place. Forced mixing will cease. Dating will pick up. Complaint will die down. We will be happy.

—Jackie Hudgins

Little Man on Campus

By Bibler



—on assignment—

items of interest

—by ron walker—

ON RUSHING A FRATERNITY—

Near the Student Union desk in Waring Hall the other evening we noticed two freshmen waiting to be taken to dinner at a fraternity. One was attired in charcoal suit, cordovans, striped button-down shirt, and repp tie, and we wouldn't be the least surprised if he wore a buckle in the back. The other wore a two-button light blue sport coat, pistol-pocket pants, and, of course, clean white bucks.

Now, ordinarily we don't attempt to overhear private conversations, but the way these two were talking together made us sit up and take notice. It seems as though the topic of discussion was something like "how should I act at the house?" or "what should I say if somebody asked me about my average?" or something like that.

Anyway, the fellow dressed in Madison Avenue fashion assured his counterpart "don't act rehearsed, just natural," and in substance, what we overheard went something like this: "Now look, Harry, don't go putting on any airs or anything. I think we're having spaghetti tonight and you might just as well forget trying to use a spoon and fork. Of course, you don't have to drag it to your mouth, either." "Oh, go ahead Harry; drag it to your mouth if you want. You won't be out of place."

OH NO! NO! NO! dep't—
Now it's Clyde Klutz.

Just when we were certain that C. V. Tummer fellow had left, another takes his place. Signs bearing the name of one Clyde Klutz have been popping up here and there in certain places around campus, leaving us to speculate that maybe the fellow wants attention.

You'll get none from us Klutz, 'Kluniz, Klouiz, or whatever your name is. Please go away.

PERSONALITY OF THE WEEK

Jack Joyce, former associate editor of Froth, is one of the few persons we know who can sleep through practically every class and still pass with flying colors. Jack, widely known throughout the environs of Calder Alley, used to tend the bar at the Tavern, but now we think he's switched his allegiance elsewhere. In a Froth parody ad last May called "Looking for Privacy?" few persons realized that it was Jack himself pictured in the ad criticizing downtown housing. On top of that, it was his own apartment—the one known around town, for obvious reasons, as "The Pit."

We were talking with Jack the other day and he told us "I've done some pretty odd things before but this is too much. I looked over my transcript the other day, added up my credits, and migod, I could've graduated by now!"

Our man Bavar, photographer for this paper, wants everyone to

know that it's perfectly OK for him to point his flash gun at the ceiling and not at the subject when taking a picture.

"People laugh at me," he said, "and think I'm doing it all wrong by aiming my flash gun upwards."

OK, Dave, we'll straighten them out. First of all, flash bounced off the ceiling gives a much softer and natural lighting effect. And, it eliminates the strong shadows characteristic of flat, on-the-camera flash.

ON SEEING "THE LONE RANGER" AND EXCLAIMING RATHER LOUDLY "HI O SILVER, AWAY!"

Don't ask us why, but we went to the Nittany last week to see "The Lone Ranger," partly because it was currently playing on Broadway and partly because we had seen everything else in town.

But we were frankly disappointed. The new Lone Ranger is nothing like the old one we used to know and the way he gives out with his "Hi O Silver, Away!" is plainly lacking something. Tonto, however, was up to his usual best, especially in his Brooklynese renditions of "me go that way shootum up" and other such gems of early Americana.

Upon reflection, we were somewhat inclined to pan the film, not merely because it is a western, but because, we repeat, the new Lone Ranger just doesn't have it.

Reading Confab Set for April

Plans for the Pennsylvania Intercollegiate Reading Festival, to be held at the University April 26 and 27, will be made at a meeting at 6:30 tonight in 312 Sparks. Interested students may attend.

Eighty colleges will participate in the festival, sponsored by students in the oral interpretation speech classes. Four students from each school will be entered.

The literature for interpretation will include prose, poetry, and drama. Detailed instructions will be given tonight in regard to the nature of the selection to be read.

Tonight on WDFM

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

Gazette

Today

- CENTRAL PROMOTION AGENCY Senior Board, 6:45 p.m., CPA office
- CHRISTIAN SCIENCE ORGANIZATION, 7 p.m., 304 Old Main
- DAILY COLLEGIAN Business Staff, 7 p.m., 108 Willard
- DAILY COLLEGIAN Local Advertising Staff, 6:30 p.m., Daily Collegian office
- DAILY COLLEGIAN Promotion Staff, 8 p.m., 103 Willard
- ENGINEERING STUDENT COUNCIL, 7 p.m., 214 Hetsel Union
- "FIVE O'CLOCK THEATER," 5 p.m., basement of Old Main
- FRESHMAN COUNCIL, 6:30 p.m., 218 Hetsel Union
- LANTERN Circulation Staff Candidates, 6:30 p.m., 103 Willard
- MAKE-UP WORKSHOP, 7 p.m., Make-up Room, Schwab Auditorium
- NEWMAN CLUB Discussion, 7 p.m., Student Center
- OUTING CLUB Cabin and Trail Division, 7:30 p.m., 317 Willard
- PENN STATE BOOK EXCHANGE Last Semester Candidates, 6:30 p.m., 203 Hetsel Union

Student Employment

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

- PHILADELPHIA YMCA, March 7
- CAMP WOODLANDS, March 10
- CAMP LAKELAND, March 10
- CAMP CONRAD WEISER, March 14-15
- CAMP MENATONE, March 14-15
- CAMP CARADONWANNA, March 21

University Hospital
Wolfgang Alber, Herbert Cohen, Donald Devorris, James Goodwin, Herman Gordon, Barbara Klineburger, Sudhir Kumar, Robert Martz, Meredith Miller, James Moore, John Patane, Raymond Pattico, Joan Schmidt, William Wimer, Rosemary Arents, Joan Lebon, and Norman Mawby.