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The Daily Collegian

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Fraternity Pro: Postponement Warranted

Three fraternities have been placed on social probation effective Monday for scholastic deficiencies—perhaps unjustly.

We do not question the right of the University to discipline groups which fall below the required scholastic norm; however, we do question the methods employed by the administration in arriving at its decision.

A number of circumstances surround the probationary ruling which work an injustice on the fraternities involved.

First, and most important, we question the method by which the fraternity averages were computed.

The fraternity averages were arrived at by a method not in accordance with standard University procedure. The recorder's office figures the house average by totaling the averages of the active and pledge members and then dividing by the number of men affiliated with the chapter. This does not give a true reading of the fraternity's standing in relation to accepted University procedure which presumably is the basis for the action by the Senate Committee on Student Affairs.

To give a true indication of a fraternity's scholastic standing the total number of credits scheduled by the men in the house should be divided into the total number of grade points earned by the men.

This would be in keeping with the method by which an individual's average is computed by the University and how he is judged.

The method of figuring an average employed by the recorder's office for fraternities and that used to compute an individual's average will not jibe in almost all cases.

By figuring the house average in the same manner as an individual's it could serve to either lower or raise the house average as it is now computed. The important point, however, is that a true average in comparison with the rest of the University would be arrived at by computing a house average by the credit-grade point method employed for computing an individual average.

There is no doubt that the two methods will cause differing averages. For example: a man schedules 15 credits and gains 30 honor points to give him a 2.0 average; another schedules 19 credits and gains 57 honor points to give him a 3.0 average. Adding the two averages together and dividing by two as the recorder's office does would give the men a joint average of 2.5. But by adding the number of credits and the number of quality points each attained and dividing total credits into total quality points as is done in individual cases the men would have a joint average of 2.55.

Thus it is obvious that a different house average can be arrived at by using the different systems. If a fraternity is to be disciplined for scholastic deficiencies its performance should be measured by the same yardstick that the University applies to individuals—the grade points divided by credits system, not the total averages divided by men method now employed.

The difference will not be much but it may well be enough to put some of the fraternities in question over the 2.0 figure. Some may say that this is splitting hairs since the house averages in question are so poor, but we contend that in this case it is necessary to split hairs since the grading system demands hair-splitting. One of the houses scheduled for probation has been awarded a 1.99 average under the recorder's method. The other two fraternities

are also fairly close and the difference in the systems might be enough to put them over the 2.0 standard.

Other factors are involved in the probationary action which also smack of unfair play. At the meeting at which the disciplinary action was decided on representatives of the fraternities involved were not present to state possible extenuating circumstances of which the committee may not have been aware.

We feel it is a basic principle of justice that the parties subject to discipline be given a chance to state their case. Also, since we are sure that the probationary measures were intended as a constructive discipline it would have been wise to have representatives of the affected groups present so they could thoroughly understand the reasoning of the committee and be better able to communicate it to their groups.

We also feel that it is unfortunate that more foresight was not exercised by the administration through prior warning to the fraternities that they would be subject to such harsh discipline if they fell below the academic norm. Hindsight is easier than foresight, of course, but it would have been well if the punishment had been decided on and announced before the offense rather than after.

Lastly, we object to the tardiness of the fraternity scholarship reports. Although the fraternities scheduled for probation are being held accountable for a full semester's work to improve their averages, they actually have only seven weeks to work on their scholarship in cognizance of their position.

We realize the difficulty the recorder's office faces in preparing the fraternity averages swiftly, but we do not feel that the difficulties involved present an insurmountable obstacle.

Spokesmen for the recorder's office explained yesterday that fraternity averages are computed last after all other averages. Under the method presently employed it takes one person about two weeks to complete the fraternity average list. Another week is required to complete the reports.

The spokesmen also reported that to compute the averages in the same manner as individual averages would vastly complicate the procedure since it would entail checking individual transcripts and totaling individual credits and grade points. At present the averages are obtained from IBM cards which do not list credits and grade points.

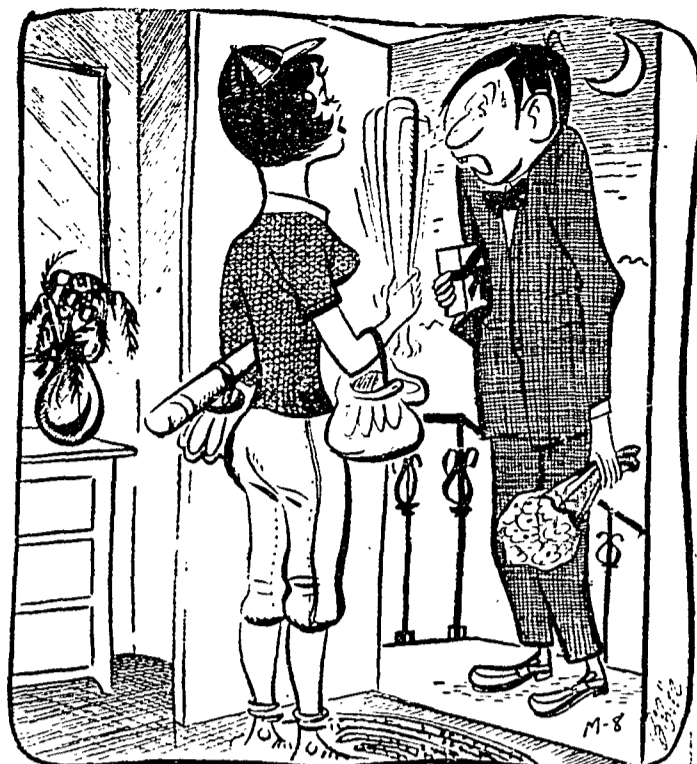
We are sure, however, in the light of the serious consequences to fraternities, that Interfraternity Council representatives would be more than glad to pitch in and help with the work so that the scholarship report could be issued early in the semester.

If this would not be possible then perhaps the averages could be computed as is done now and then the lower houses which might be questionable could be rechecked by the method used for individuals. In this way perhaps only 100 individual averages would have to be reviewed instead of more than 2000.

In any event, however, the averages of the fraternities now scheduled for probation should definitely be rechecked by the credit-grade point system. If a fraternity is to be disciplined for academic failure it should be given the same treatment the University accords to other scholarship problem cases.

The social probation ruling should be postponed until it is ascertained whether the three fraternities really are below the scholastic norm. —Mike Miller

Little Man on Campus By Bibler



"BUT—WHEN I SAID PLAY BALL WITH ME TONITE"—I HAD SOMETHING ELSE IN MIND!"

Look Who's Talking . . .

About Averages

Jackie Hudgins

Being loyal believers in the grading system around here, we find ourselves convinced that women are smarter than men. Why do we say this? First of all, because figures in Willard prove it. Just this

week, the All-University women's average, computed to be 2.61, soared over the All-University men's meager 2.30.

Why do women, year after year, bring home the scholastic honors? Well, because they are smarter; we've already established that, but there's another reason. They're better disciplined.

Do you ever see a gang of coeds at the Town House at 11:30 on Wednesday nights? Do they roam around the borough early in the morning—singing no less?

Of course they don't. They're in their dormitories studying—without even so much as a telephone call to bother them.

But the poor men—there's just no one to watch over them to see that everything goes along smoothly.

So what should we do to cure this terrible ill the men seem to have brought upon themselves?

Should we fight for house-mothers for men's dormitories?

Should we stop all local telephone service at 10 p.m.—on the dot?

Should we give men black marks when they yell out of their windows onto the courtyards, or when they wear dungarees into the dining halls?

Should we push for a pink-slip method of checking their weekend trips?

Should we make them "dress up" for special dinners and wear "Sunday dress" to Sunday meals?

Should we insist that they be in their dormitories every night during the week at 10, and on weekends at 1?

Should we make them cut out all smoking in the dining rooms—and all drinking?

Should we "campus" them when they accumulate three black marks?

Should we restrict their wearing of Bermuda shorts? Of course not!

We women like being smarter than men.

Hall Will Speak At Grad Lecture

Dr. Newman A. Hall, assistant dean in charge of the Graduate Division of the College of Engineering at the New York University, will be the next speaker in the Graduate School Lectures series. His topic will be "The Profession of Engineering." The lecture, co-sponsored by the College of Engineering and Architecture, will be held at 8 p.m. today in the Mineral Science auditorium. It will be open to the public.

Fire Inspection Discloses No Major Hazards

Alpha volunteer firemen checking five rooming houses listed as containing fire hazards Tuesday night found "everything to be in pretty good order," according to Tom Sauers, fire chief.

Sauers said the only hazards discovered were several overloaded circuits and lack of fire escapes in several of the buildings.

The five rooming houses were named on lists of rooming houses containing fire hazards submitted to the borough by Robert Cole, Town Independent Men president. Cole said previously he formed the list from complaints made to him by town students.

Commenting on the lack of major fire hazards found, Sauers said the students who made the complaints mustn't have known what they were talking about.

Firemen hope to complete inspection of the remainder of boarding houses and unchecked fraternities sometime this week, Sauers said.

WH Council To Nominate

The West Halls Council decided Tuesday night that preliminary nominations for the council president will be accepted at its next meeting.

Additional nominations and elections will take place April 24. It is not necessary that a student nominated for the office be a member of the present council. Students in the West Hall area are eligible to enter candidates for the Miss Penn State contest. A 5 by 7 inch photograph must be turned in at the council's meeting Tuesday night.

Entries for the West Halls soft ball tournament should be turned in by 4:30 p.m. Friday. The entry fee is \$1.

Tonight on WDFM

Time	Program
6:45	Sign On
6:50	News, Sports
7:00	Contemporary Concepts
7:55	News
8:00	Just for Two
9:00	News Roundup
9:30	Light Classical Music
11:00	Sign Off

Safety Valve

Marine Discipline: It's Vital

TO THE EDITOR: Do you know what discipline means to the Armed Services? You can't ask a man to, "Please make your bunk," or "Please stand weekend duty." No one is going to ask him to "Please shoot me, I'm the enemy." Discipline in the Armed Forces isn't a form of reprimand. It is a way of life. Its major objective is to teach a man to react while he is thinking, not afterwards when it is too late to react at all. I sleep at night because I know well-equipped, well-trained, well-disciplined men are on guard. Yet, you and your aroused public opinion, uninformed and adolescent, would strip the Armed Services of this discipline. True, the death of those six Marines was an unfortunate incident, but isn't it better six than the entire company or Democracy itself?

Murder, you called it. Isn't an airplane crash where forty are killed murder? No, that is just an unfortunate or tragic accident. Before you hang anyone, find out what is learned in six weeks of basic.

Why are the draft laws so tough? Why have volunteer branches recently had to resort to drafting men? Your type of aroused public opinion is one good reason. It has taken so much from the services that men, good men, with as much as 14 or 16 years time are getting

Gazette

Today

HILLEL SABBATH EVE SERVICES, 8 p.m., Hillel Foundation
INTER-VARSITY CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP, 7:30 p.m., Hetzel Union auditorium
LUTHERAN STUDENT ASSOCIATION Discussion, 7 p.m., LUTHERAN STUDENT ASSOCIATION Foot Soccer, 8 p.m., NEWMAN CLUB Party, 8 p.m., Student Center

The following camps and resorts will interview at the Student Employment Service, 112 Old Main. Please sign up in advance for an appointment.

April 14—Cradle Beach Camp, New York
April 14—Hulet's on Lake George, New York
April 18 and 19—Camp Conrad Weiser, Pennsylvania
April 19 and 20—Camp Sinking Creek, Pennsylvania
April 21—Trail Blazer Camps, New Jersey

University Hospital

Harold Albrecht, Ralph Brower, Joseph Dudek, Donald Gordon, Frederick Greenleaf, Richard Liedy, Andrew Marzetti, Russell MacNamee, Michael McCormick, John McDermott, Patricia Moyer, Albert Orr, Michael Ott, Terry Rebe, Robert Smith, James Strueher, Roy Vollmer, Francis Walls, David West, Richard Wolford, Wayne King, Chandler Waggoner, Parkes Eldridge, Jay Livziey, and Harriet Plotnick.

discharged. You handcuff officers and non-commissioned officers so much they can't tell "Junior" to get up without fear of a congressional investigation.

Unless you are "bucking" for commissar and want a good night's sleep, you had better arouse public opinion for the days of "wooden ships and iron men" instead of just iron ships.

—Bill Bush