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The Daily Collegian

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The Movies: It Isn't Quality but Quantity

(This is the first of two editorials on the presentation of movies in town and on campus)

Any way you look at it, the moving picture situation in State College and at the University is practically deplorable.

There are three theaters in town and every week they present film entertainment for the students and those adults of the faculty, administration, and townfolk who care to buck the student crowds.

But when one stops to think about the movies shown, it becomes apparent that while the quality of films may be up to standard the quantity certainly isn't.

An average of six or seven movies play in these three theaters every week. On first thought this may seem like a reasonable amount. But take a second look. One theater may play a single film a whole week and each of the other two may play two or possibly, in rare instances, three movies a week.

This is a sparsity of movies for a town of this size, especially a town encompassing within it a university of some 12,500 students.

Pity the poor student without a car to carry him to the drive-in theater or to a Bellefonte theater. It's Saturday night and he has a date. One of the theaters is presenting a movie he was unlucky enough to have seen the Sunday before. Due to a complex and unforeseen state of affairs called popularity, the movie has been held in town the whole week.

Another theater is presenting a "children's feature," a slight bit of nothing which appears every Saturday and is supposed to appeal to the grade school student in town. This is fine but isn't very appealing to most students entering their twenties.

This leaves the third theater. If the movie happens not to appeal to his taste, or that of his date's, it's just too bad. For them this film is

"the only movie in town."

To be sure, a student's entertainment woes don't often reach these heights. There is usually one movie playing at any time of the week likely to appeal to him.

This helps point up a simple fact, though—there is too great an audience waiting to see the movies that come to town. If a film is anyway near good or great the crowds it draws are more than likely to keep it around some five to eight days.

This spoils a night for a student wishing to see a movie if one or two of the movies playing were around four or five days ago and the remaining show is reportedly pretty bad.

A popular film is murder on a Saturday night—but for different reasons. The theaters' seating capacity is so small if a person doesn't buy his ticket by 6:45 or 7 p.m., he is liable to stand an hour or so. At least he will stand until the feature is over and some of the crowd disperses.

The basic problem is that the more popular the movies shown the longer they run, and the longer they run the remoter the chances for other movies to be shown. The small seating capacities help in their way to extend a film's run.

As a result fewer movies come to State College. There are many first rate films that take months to make their appearance in town. They are many second and third rate films, entertaining enough, that may never come to town.

Are there any ways to alleviate this situation? Could means be found to show more movies—not only new but old and foreign movies—in town and on campus? Can a method be found to shorten the runs of movies to fit a total population of 25,000?

These are not small problems interesting a few. They affect the entertainment-seeking values of many if only unconsciously.

—Ted Serrill

Forecast: Cloudy with Silliness

The silly season, a perennial disturbance native to college and university campuses around this time every spring, is sweeping on undaunted towards the University.

The disturbance had its origin last Thursday in New Brunswick, New Jersey. There, without warning, 500 "mature fraternity men" at Rutgers University became involved in a water fight which mushroomed into an all-out garbage throwing hassle with the local police. One University official, perhaps a bit affected by shock from the affair, declared the boys were merely having a good time.

Continuing westward, the disturbance blew itself into a full fledged riot when it reached the campus of the University of Pennsylvania Friday. There, "just for fun" students set up a roadblock on Locust street, one of the main thoroughfares of downtown Philadelphia, when several students became bored after dinner. Police brought the incident to an end after being pelted with eggs and stones by arresting 170 students.

With a quick jump, our storm which we shall call Spring Silliness, eloped to Gettysburg College. Six students, evidently not fortified with enough maturity, were struck down with the symptoms. They organized a panty raid on nearby Dickinson College. The outcome was hundreds of dollars in damage, and six students locked up by local police for disturbing the peace.

The latest forecast places our Spring Silli-

ness somewhere between Harrisburg and University Park with no end to its unpredictable happenings in sight.

We fervently hope this silliness, with all the destruction and harmful publicity that accompany it, bypasses the University and blows itself out before it can harm any other college campus.

Students at Penn State are by no means immune to the effects of Spring Silliness. Therefore, extra precautions on their part should be taken to insure against a recurrence of the near-riot that plagued the campus last year at this time. In a burst of spring fever, several hundred demonstrators gathered in the West Dorm quadrangle and were almost successful in inciting a panty raid on the girls dorms.

It's a funny thing . . . as soon as the symptoms wear off and the campus returns to its normal state, the ringleaders of the crime can't imagine what prompted them to act in the manner in which they did. Perhaps the sobering influence of the damage they left in their wake or the mud smeared on the reputation of the University had something to do with it.

A University stands or falls on the conduct and reputation of its students. If a little more thoughtfulness is displayed by the students who are considered mature enough to be admitted as members to the University, Spring Silliness and all of the potentially dangerous events that come in its wake can be removed forever from the face of the campus.

—The Editor

Thompson 'Lineup'

About 550 freshman women were inconvenienced unnecessarily Saturday afternoon because of the poor planning and lack of foresight on the part of the department of housing. Saturday of Spring Week, one of the biggest weekends in the year, these women were required to register for their rooms for next year.

Not only was the timing poor, but the inadequate consideration the housing department gave to registration dragged out the entire process. All freshman women were told to report to Thompson recreation room at 1 p.m. The crowd overflowed into the adjoining rooms making it impossible for registration to take place efficiently.

At 4 p.m. housing was just beginning to register coeds whose last names fell in the M's. This means that these coeds had been waiting for three hours.

We feel that the whole system is unfair. First of all, by registering alphabetically, a coed is penalized just because her name begins with O rather than D. Even using alphabetization, it would have been much easier for the coeds and housing if the women had been divided into small groups. These groups would have a special time to report, thus avoiding all the crowds and confusion.

Housing's excuse for holding registration on a big weekend is that "everyone will be here." However, if the coeds had been notified far

Gazette

- Today
- AMERICAN ROCKET SOCIETY, 7 p.m., 105 Mechanical Engineering
 - ANGEL FLIGHT, Business Meeting, 7 p.m., 203 Willard
 - ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES ARMY, 7:30 p.m., Alpha Epsilon Pi
 - BELLES LETTRES, 7:30 p.m., Atherton Lounge
 - COLLEGIAN, Ad Staff meeting, 6:30 p.m., 9 Carnegie
 - COLLEGIAN, Business Staff, 7 p.m., 104 Willard
 - CHRISTIAN SCIENCE ORGANIZATION, 7 p.m., 304 Old Main
 - DAIRY EXPOSITION EXHIBITORS, Practice Session, 7 p.m., new Dairy Barn
 - ENGINEERING STUDENT COUNCIL, 7 p.m., 214 Hetzel Union
 - FROTH, Circulation Staff, 6:30 p.m., Hetzel Union Auditorium
 - HILFEL, Elections, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m., 1 to 5:30 p.m., 7 to 8 p.m., Hilfel Foundation
 - NEWMAN CLUB, Publicity Committee, 12:50 p.m., 308 Old Main
 - YOUNG REPUBLICAN CLUB, 7 p.m., 208 Willard
- Tomorrow
- MARKETING CLUB, 7 p.m., Sigma Phi Epsilon University Hospital
 - Rosemarie Aquino, Vincent Cuccodrilli, Gail Forman, James Goodwin, Irvin Heiklen, Mary Krause, William Shannon, John Salathe, William Troutman, Charles Weidman, Richard Winn, Rebecca Zahn.

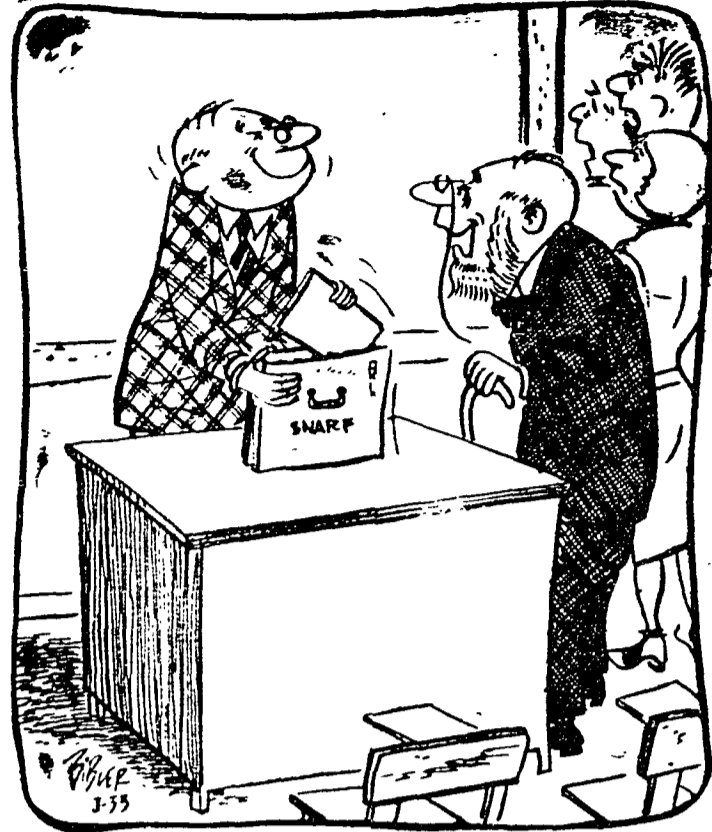
enough in advance of the registration date, plans would have been made so that all the women would be present.

We certainly hope that housing will profit from the blunders it made last Saturday and that next year's freshmen will benefit from the inconvenience this year's class suffered.

—Mickie Cohen

Little Man on Campus

By Bibler



"Wonderful talk, Professor Snarf—I've never heard a class lecture in which the most important points were more cleverly disguised."

—dubbs-za-poppin'

Let's Jazz Up These TV Lectures

The University may not know it, but what this television teaching needs is a little jazzing up.

The way it is now, it's dead. It's not hep with the times.

What do we have now? A little music before the lecture begins and maybe a shot of Old Main or the Nittany Lion.

Then the music stops, the prof looks at the camera, and keeps on looking at the camera wondering if he's on.

Each televised lecture should be made into a major production. Yes, even a "spectacular," minus color for the time being.

Wouldn't an introduction like this be effective, as the music fades out?

The Pennsylvania State University presents Dr. Malter Huster, professor of political science, in Poli Sci 30. And here he is—the man who thinks politicians are honest—Dr. Huster.



Ed Dubbs

This would really add something to a televised lecture.

And then Dr. Huster could say something like this:

"Hello, Hello, Hello. Before we begin today's lecture, a funny thing happened to me on the way to the studio . . . (notice the word studio, which is replacing classroom at Penn State)."

Then Dr. Huster would have his students (viewers, rather) in a good mood.

The program could end just as dramatically, with the final words of the announcer being: "This is the Penn State Broadcasting System."

However, this TV teaching could go so far that the University might have to install dressing rooms and hire professional makeup artists in order to keep competent profs. This could lead to trouble since maybe the actors' union would insist that profs join the union.

What would the Air Force's TV stars—Capt. Aiken and Capt. O'Neill—do then? They couldn't join the union.

And pretty soon, we'd expect the announcer to be saying at the end of the program:

"Dr. Huster's sport jacket is through the courtesy of Jack Marker, West College avenue, State College. This handsome, three-button, Ivy League jacket is available in a variety of sizes and colors. Drop in and try one

on in your size and favorite color today."

But the University has been missing a good bet here. It surely must be worried over the increased costs of running a university. So why doesn't it run about three one-minute spot commercials during a televised lecture?

Advertisers, we're sure, would jump at a chance like this. Where else could they get a captivated audience?

Yes, don't you agree? All this TV teaching needs it a little jazzing up.

This column the other day was insulted. Campus station WDFM blamed us for stealing Dubbs-za-poppin' from its show, Hubszapoppin'. How could they think such a thing?

All kidding aside, we hope that Dubbs-za-poppin' will be just half as enjoyable as Hubszapoppin'.

Supervisor to Speak To Marketing Group

William A. Hart Jr., an account supervisor with Batten, Barton, Durstine & Osborn, Inc., will speak at a meeting of the Marketing Club at 7:30 p.m. tomorrow at Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity.

During the meeting, members may sign up for the club picnic to be held May 19 at Hecla Park, a club officer said.

Agriculture Course

A two-year applied course in agriculture, which has been offered for many years at the University, has been reorganized as a two-year program that will lead to the degree of associate in agriculture.

Tonight on WDFM

- 91.1 MEGACYCLES
- 6:45 ----- Sign On
 - 6:50 ----- News, Sports
 - 7:00 ----- Dr. Henry A. Finch Lecture Series
 - 7:45 ----- News, Sports, Romance Language
 - 8:00 ----- Invitation to Relax
 - 8:30 ----- Time for Weia
 - 9:00 ----- Behind the Lectern
 - 9:30 ----- Agriculture News
 - 9:45 ----- News, Weather
 - 10:00 ----- This World of Music
 - 11:00 ----- Sign Off