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# The Daily Collegian

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## Rushing—Pros and Cons

Sara Ann Hawkins, Panhellenic Council rush chairman, sent a letter to the editor concerning our editorial in yesterday's issue. We feel there may have been some misunderstanding and confusion on Miss Hawkins' part in the criticism raised concerning Panhellenic Council.

Miss Hawkins' letter follows:

"In answer to Miss Conklin's editorial of Friday, Oct. 26, I would like to clarify some of the issues which she criticized so strongly.

"First, this year an unprecedented number of women signed up for informal rush. The informal rush program heretofore had been conducted via telephone calls between the sorority and rushee. This system was not feasible with 277 women planning to rush. In order to accommodate such a large group, the rush committee of Panhellenic Council was forced to revise the former method within one week. Thus the present invitation system, which was deemed the most effective that could be worked out in such a short period of time, was adopted. It would be quite impossible for invitations to be handled through the Dean of Women's office because not only is there a shortage of help there, but Panhel alumni from town cannot be expected to devote eight hours a day to sorting invitations during an informal period.

"Secondly, Panhellenic Council does not operate to the advantage of sororities alone. It also takes into consideration the position of the rushee. Accordingly the week allowed a rushee to accept or reject a bid enables her to give thought to an extremely important decision. A possibility for limiting this period to three days was suggested at the last council meeting, at which time the council voted unanimously to retain the present week period. Provisions were made for studying the suggestion and putting it into effect next year.

"Thirdly, in September a meeting of all women interested in rush was held in 121 Sparks. At this time they were informed of the technicalities of rush and the importance of reading the Collegian for additional information. It must be remembered that informal rushing is quite different from formal rush. Informal rushing is in essence a courtesy extended to those women who previously did not have an opportunity to rush. It is thus necessary to preserve the informal atmosphere which prevails at this time in order to distinguish the two programs from one another. Accordingly, Miss Conklin's suggestions are quite pertinent to a formal rush period but completely out of context with our concern over an informal program."

If the Panhel rush committee was forced to revise the informal rush period in one week it

was not because it did not have more time. When so few girls went through formal rushing last spring, it was quite evident that a great number would be going through the informal fall rush. In fact, this was a major topic of discussion during last spring's formal rush. Panhel should have started working at that time on revising the informal rush program to accommodate the large number of rushees. Perhaps with more time the committee could have developed a more workable plan.

Miss Hawkins states that it would be impossible to use the Dean of Women's office for clearing invitations. It was not impossible to use it last spring during informal rush when 236 coeds registered for rushing, and yet it is considered bad policy and a waste of time for such busy people when 277 coeds register for fall informal rush.

Miss Hawkins also mentions the fact that the week which is allowed for rushees to answer bids enables them to give serious thought to an "extremely important decision." We find that the decision is no less important during formal rush when coeds have only a few hours to decide their preferences of sororities. We agree that the decision is important. We feel, however, that longer rushing would better enable coeds to make wise decisions, not so much the length of time they have to answer bids. Three days would certainly suffice for a rushee to evaluate the amount of information she has gained during the rush program. We feel that three days would not put rushees at a disadvantage and would give the sororities a better advantage in handling the rush program.

Miss Hawkins goes into great detail to point out what methods are used for educating prospective rushees to the program. She missed the point. There is not enough done in this line. We would also like to point out that it would be somewhat foolish to maintain the informal atmosphere of the present rush period merely to distinguish it from the formal rush period. We think that the reason for informal rushing is that it is very difficult for sororities to prepare for two formal rush periods in one year. Usually there are not very many girls going through the informal rush so that there is little incentive for sororities to prepare parties. However, if Panhel continues to rush second semester freshmen, we would predict that it would soon become necessary to have two formal rush periods.

We do not intend to criticize Panhel unduly. We feel that many of their projects are quite worthwhile, but that most of them would be more effective with a little more effort.

—Sue Conklin

## Rehearsals Not Needed

Everyone who attends church requires varying amounts of religious ceremony.

Some Protestant students require the ritual of their own denomination. For this reason they attend the local church representing the group to which they belong.

Others attend the University Chapel. Some chapel-goers have made their choice for reasons of convenience. Others place more importance on hearing well-known speakers than on denominational ritual.

Even though this group doesn't require much religious ceremony, many of them have decided in the last three weeks to stop attending Chapel.

These students feel what religious ceremony chapel does have, is being destroyed. And they

attribute this destruction to the practice of rehearsing the hymns before the service begins.

The hymnals being used this year are new. However, students are still capable of singing the hymns on sight with the choir and organ to back them. They do not need to be rehearsed by Mrs. Willa Taylor, the choir director, to be able to take part in the service.

One of these services when hymns were practiced was broadcast over the local radio station. In this instance such a practice might be plausible. However, we do not see why practice in congregational singing needs to be instituted at the University when no church throughout the world has ever found it necessary.

If the practice continues it is certain that chapel attendance will fall.

—Carole Gibson

## Safety Valve

### The Band Played On?

TO THE EDITOR: On Thursday the Army ROTC marched with their instruments but did not play a single note. As a result, general confusion reigned. This was caused by an order of the University authorities to silence the disturbing noise that supposedly accompanies a military band.

If this is the case why not remove all the disturbing noises from the campus rather than selecting just one organization—ROTC? Perhaps the administration could eliminate noisy trucks, cars, and the various musical noises that pour forth from Carnegie and bother students in Sparks, Willard, and Carnegie. This sounds preposterous doesn't it; but being a land grant University we have to have ROTC and ROTC bands to drill them.

Will it be right for the University to continue to call upon the military bands to provide music for national observances? If so, should they be

held out by University farms or the golf course as suggested by Miss Conklin?

In our common hours now there is barely enough time to issue arms, hold a review, and return the rifles to the Armory without marching 1600 students to some distant field.

One afternoon a week is not too disturbing an experience and after all we are college students and should be able to concentrate on studies with a small amount of disturbance going on around us.

We know that the administration can arrive at a decision which will be more acceptable to everyone concerned.

—David Goodspeed  
Drum Major

—Norman Hedding  
Director.

Ed. Note: Order which stopped bands from playing at common hours came from the three heads of the ROTC departments and not from University officials.

## Gazette

Tomorrow  
CANTERBURY ASSOCIATION, 5:30 p.m.  
ELECTIONS COMMITTEE, 6:30 p.m., 121 Sparks  
Monday  
FRESHMAN COUNCIL, 7:30 p.m., 101 Willard

University Hospital  
Robert Bowytz, Richard Dill, Byron Hartley, James Holmes, George McGee, Andrew Moconyi, Kay Powell, Kenneth Slatnick, George Spaid, and Frances Wagner.

## "By Golly, If I had A Part in This Campaign—"



Herblock's opinions are not necessarily those of this newspaper, the student body, or the University.

## According to Moyle

—by mike moyle

### Carnegie Controversy

It is becoming more and more apparent that we have a first-line controversy on our hands around these parts. The ROTC bands have been silenced. What next?

A reader in the Nittany area has written us a note suggesting that perhaps the ban be extended to the musicians who diligently practice in Carnegie. I'm sure almost everyone who ever gets to this end of the campus must have heard these people at one time or another. How can you miss?

So now that the bands are quiet it looks like sentiment is rising against allowing the music students' not-so-pear-shaped tones from wafting out over Pollock road.

Right now we can imagine many members of the faculty of the music department rushing over to Old Main screaming protests like "Don't try to send us out to Ag Hill to practice."

This practice of ROTC bands playing one day a week first came under criticism on this page. Then the profs took up the cause. If the truth be known the profs were actually the first ones to complain.

Our comment on the whole thing is that it doesn't seem to be a really serious problem. It is serious to the Army band and perhaps to some professors who have classes within earshot of Carnegie or of Old Main.

However, being a march fan and lover of martial music from way back we can only say that if the bands come back we won't be very unhappy.

Looks like the upset of Ohio State has set people to thinking about this football team of ours. Interest is at an all-time high. We are going to wend our way up to Beaver Field real early today. Looks like the senior section is going to be mobbed with early arrivals.

Seems to us that the administration really did let themselves open to valid (that's the kind which is hard to ignore) criticism, when it arranged a schedule which forced students to travel back to school on a national holiday. Traffic factor made them look a little shortsighted also. The proposal to tack on two days at the beginning of the vacation, however, is an example of a fault of student government cropping up again.

If the students can't make sure

that their views are solidly entrenched in the minds of the administration then the students are at fault. It seems a little ridiculous to try to change something which has been already established. Especially something like that "inflexible" old calendar.

Seriously suggest that you see the Players and the School of the Arts production of "Ruddigore" currently running in Schwab. They have done a very nice job with some grand old Gilbert and Sullivan stuff. Another note: Never before have we heard so many really fine voices together in one show at Penn State. Players are really becoming a music-minded group these days.

From all the weather reports we've heard no one will be roasting (a la Holy Cross game) in Beaver Field this afternoon. Rain and cold weather are called for. Real football for a real football game.

### UCA to Hold Bible Classes

The University Christian Association will sponsor several Bible study courses for preparing students who will attend an inter-collegiate conference at Chatham College, Pittsburgh, Dec. 27 to Jan. 1.

The conferences will discuss "The University Under God." The Bible study groups will meet at 7:30 p.m. Monday in Waring Hall Lounge; 8 p.m. Monday in 218 Hetzel Union; 7 p.m. Tuesday in Alpha Gamma Rho fraternity; 8:30 p.m. Wednesday in 212 Helen Eakin Eisenhower Chapel; 8:15 p.m. Thursday in Lutheran Student Center, and 9:30 p.m. Thursday in Nittany 38.

### Froth Available Today

Froth will be on sale for 25 cents today at the Hetzel Union desk.