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The Daily Collegian

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FMA: What to Do With the Wreckage?

To say that the Interfraternity Council closed its collective eyes Monday night to a real opportunity for cooperation and economy in food buying would indeed be an understatement. The defeat of a "100 per cent" Fraternity Marketing Association and the resulting move by the FMA Board of Trustees to suspend operations by the end of the semester leaves IFC with a difficult problem to solve.

Concerning Monday's voting, we believe the only argument we saw advanced against the "100 per cent" amendment that approached being legitimate or reasonable was that the proposal involved the use of force, and that fraternities which did not wish to belong to FMA should not be coerced into joining, no matter how good the organization might be.

The issues in the debate immediately preceding Monday's voting were almost completely obscured by a smokescreen of misleading, irrelevant, and downright untrue arguments.

One opponent of the amendment, attending his second IFC meeting of the year, blandly proclaimed that he had not seen sufficient facts or figures to justify the proposal. Referring to his own fraternity, he said: "We get better profits than any house in FMA." We heard several council members ask under their breath exactly what comparisons he had made to determine this "fact," but no one challenged him on the floor.

Another council member declaiming the amendment accused the IFC vice president's surveying committee of having "no idea of the internal workings of fraternities"! Not once, but twice were additional profits which FMA distributed over and above normal discounts "confused" with the association's total benefits to fraternities.

It seems to us a sad commentary on council members that none effectively refuted the unfounded argument that the amendment was contrary to state law and that none effectively countered the argument that an impossibly expensive warehouse would become a necessity until AFTER the vote.

It is indeed surprising to us that, in all the professed quest for information about FMA and the FMA program over the past two weeks,

that not one fraternity officer took the time or trouble to ask for an explanation of the plan from the association's board president, who conducts regular office hours.

In any case, IFC's contradictory moves over the past few months—in fact since the formation of FMA—in supporting the project in principle and in working against it in practice have gained it the net result of no progress whatsoever.

Instead it has lost the services of a valuable organization which it is still striving to keep in principle. It has driven a group of responsible, experienced administrators and students to give up in disgust.

And it has most certainly shown a lack of judgment and foresight.

What can be done now? IFC can begin a joint-buying committee of its own, to replace the services lost from FMA. However, we have serious doubts that such an inexperienced committee could succeed, unless it is mobilized with extreme speed and unless it consults and gains the help of some of the present FMA board members.

IFC on Monday passed a resolution calling for an investigation into what could be done in three phases of a joint-buying program, with a report to be made by June. As well-intentioned as this may be, we hesitate to express confidence that such a committee can do in a few months what a more experienced group has been trying to do for four years.

To make a working program out of the wreckage of the organization they so soundly defeated Monday night, IFC faces a gigantic task. We still cannot help but express the belief that the passage of the "100 per cent amendment" would have been a much easier, safer way to bring the IFC and FMA into a closer, more proper relationship.

It is now up to IFC to make the best it can of a bad situation.

We express our deepest hope and desire for the continuation of a cooperative buying program at the University, but we cannot express confidence.

—Bob Franklin

Cabinet: Separate Wheat From Chaff

How much does All-University Cabinet work for itself and how much for the students? We would estimate that it spends 90 per cent or more of its time on procedural matter, and the remaining small percentage of its time on substantive matter.

We find that both idealistically and realistically this is a very discouraging situation. Cabinet is supposed to represent the student body. It is supposed to function on behalf of the student body. Cabinet should look for problems all over campus which affect the students' welfare. These they should spend time solving.

Cabinet would seem to be the most egotistical group of people at the University. It would seem that the members consider Cabinet as the only group of great enough importance to be worthy of its time.

The greatest amount of Cabinet's time so far this year has been spent on two items—Student Encampment reports, and the Supreme Court. Both of these fall in the procedural category. Both are concerned with making Cabinet a smooth running and effective group. We wonder what Cabinet hopes to be effective for. It would seem only to make itself more effective.

Cabinet has also spent some time on the National Student Association, also a procedural matter. The bulk of the remaining time has been spent hearing and approving reports from its various committees or approving names of students to participate on its various committees. Both of these functions also fit into the procedural classification.

On the substantive side we find that Cabinet has made a few contributions, but all of which took very little of its very valuable time. First,

it recommended a longer Christmas vacation. It was not at fault entirely for its lack of success. Second, it recommended that \$2 be added to each student's fees for the cultural program.

On this motion it spent very little time, and may have missed the point that it was by far the most important action that Cabinet has yet taken. Third, it allocated some funds to send cheerleaders to a football game. This action we also find worthy of Cabinet's time, far more so than the Supreme Court issue.

If the members of Cabinet could find time they might analyze the issue of the Christmas holiday extension. They, quite rightly, feel that the student government failure was caused by the lack of participation from the student body.

What they don't seem to realize is that the student body has been given little reason to believe that there would be any action gained by supporting Cabinet. The student body rarely feels the effects of Cabinet legislation or recommendations so why should it feel that in this instance the group could work great miracles. The mass of students cannot organize itself behind Cabinet. Cabinet must, itself do this.

If the members of Cabinet would learn parliamentary procedure, a great deal of time could be saved and more precise legislation could be passed more quickly.

If the members of Cabinet would find time to look outside their own group, to look at the students they represent, they could for a change fulfill their function of working for the students. At present they work entirely for themselves, not for the students who elected them, and whom they supposedly represent.

—Sue Conklin

Safety Valve

refuse of your teeming shores. Send them, the homeless tempest tossed to me. I lift my lamp beside the golden door."

By the overwhelming response to the cause of these freedom-loving people, you have assured the heroes of Hungary that they have not died in vain.

—Mrs. Henry Yeagley
Glen Elder
Co-chairmen, Hungarian Relief Drive

Gazette

NITTANY GROTTO: 7 p.m., 121 Mineral Industries
PENN STATE BARBELL CLUB: 7 p.m., 102 Willard
PENN STATE CHESS CLUB: 7 p.m., 7 Sparks
PENN STATE RIDING CLUB: 7 p.m., 211 Willard
SCIENCE FICTION SOCIETY: 7 p.m., 214 HUB
SOCIETY OF AMERICAN MILITARY ENGINEERS: 7 p.m., 2 Carnegie

Magnificent Response

TO THE EDITOR: In the Hungarian Relief Drive our community developed a spirit symbolic of American unity in the cause of freedom wherever it may be. This spontaneous effort certainly reaffirms our adherence to the moving inscription on the Statue of Liberty.

"Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free, the wretched

Today
ADVENT NOONDAY PRAYER: 12:30 p.m., Helen Eskin
Eisenhower Chapel
ADVENT WORSHIP SERVICE: 8:10 a.m., Helen Eskin
Luther Memorial Chapel
BOOK CHANGE: All Boards, 6:30 p.m., 217 HUB
NEW BAVARIAN SCHULPLATERS: 7:30 p.m., 406
Old Main

Little Man on Campus by Biblea



"Yes, I'm going to pass you because I'm tired of having to make up new tests for this course every year."

According to Moyle

by mike moyle

The Reverend Vincent Negherbon, dean of students at St. Francis College, made quite a stir early this week when he announced that the school has formally outlawed "steady dating" by the students.

The school, located at Loretto, has 650 men and 150 women students.

As one would expect, the new ruling met with an immediate uproar on the part of the students and to quote the Pittsburgh Press, "I'll Walk Alone" and "Too Young to Go Steady" became top favorites on campus jukeboxes."

The reasons given for the ruling were that steady dating should mean that the couple are contemplating marriage in the very near future and therefore the practice of going steady is morally wrong for college students.

Father Negherbon also made the assertion that steady dating is detrimental to scholastic standing.

The latter point may have some good foundation but with the former we must take sharp issue.

The entire move on the part of St. Francis officials was a big surprise. It seems quite ridiculous for any college to pass such a ruling.

The point which immediately comes to the minds of most college students is, "How in the world are they ever going to enforce it?" What we wonder is, "Can the administration of a college or university dictate to the students what kind of social life they should lead?"

The Pittsburgh Press said that when the announcement was made the students were shouting "segregation" and dictatorship at the school officials. Perhaps these terms are a bit strong but the basis for complaint is certainly present.

If an administration hasn't overstepped its bounds on this one then no administration ever has.

During the course of the year we have compiled a few notes on radio station WMAJ (that's the only station which is heard by the entire student body.)

To begin with, the fans of Bob and Ray (and they are legion) have a complaint to make about that weekly program. Without trying to pry into the financial affairs of the station, we ask: is it absolutely necessary to cut in-

to the Bob and Ray show every night for a five-minute newscast? It's only five minutes but often it comes right in the middle of a very funny skit and sometimes right smack in the middle of a sentence.

Also why isn't the Bob and Ray show broadcast on some Thursdays? Perhaps these questions involve a matter of sponsors and to a radio program the sponsor comes first (naturally) so I guess we have no really legitimate gripe. But couldn't something different be worked out?

We do have one good word for the station though. We think most people will agree that the staff announcers far surpass those of the last two years. Much more listenable this year. But why does Roy Elwell try so hard to imitate Regge Cordic of KDKA (Pittsburgh)?

We would like to correct a couple of false impressions left in last week's column: 1. We weren't trying to start a food riot in the dining halls with our comments on the one out at the University of Michigan. Now, who could ever accuse us of doing a nasty thing like that to Food Service. They, who are doing such a stupendous job for the students.

We were merely trying to tie in the dissatisfaction at both schools with the food. Of course, students in the dorms always complain about the food. We know they all want service like they get back home and all that BUT perhaps it isn't only the food here which is bringing about the complaints.

We might add a note to the students eating in the dormitories at present. Please, for our sake don't start any food riot. They will get you nowhere but backward with the administration. They frown heavily on riots as well they should. Be-

(Continued on page five)

Tonight on WDFM

91.1 MEGACYCLES
6:55 Sign On
7:00 Telephone Requests
7:50 News
8:00 Anthology
8:20 Music of the People
8:30 Invitation to Relax
9:30 Informally Yours
9:45 News
10:00 Virtuosos
11:00 Sign Off