

Published Tuesday through Saturday mornings during the University year. The Daily Collegian is a student-operated newspaper.

# The Daily Collegian

Editorials represent the viewpoints of the writers, not necessarily the policy of the paper, the student body, or the University.

Successor to THE FREE LANCE, est. 1887

\$3.00 per semester \$5.00 per year

Entered as second-class matter July 5, 1934 at the State College, Pa. Post Office under the act of March 3, 1879.

MIKE MOYLE, Editor

DAVE RICHARDS, Business Manager

Joe Conklin, Managing Editor; Ed Dubbs, City Editor; Fran Fanucci, Sports Editor; Becky Zahm, Copy Editor; Evie Orna, Assistant Copy Editor; Vince Carocci, Assistant Sports Editor; Pat Hunter, Features Editor; Dave Bavar, Photography Editor.

Deanna Soltis, Asst. Business Manager; Arnold Hoffman, Local Adv. Mgr.; Anita Lynch, Asst. Local Adv. Mgr.; Janice Anderson, National Adv. Mgr.; Anne Caton and David Posca, Co-Circulation Mgrs.; Arthur Brener, Promotion Mgr.; Jo Fulton, Personnel Mgr.; Harry Yaverbaum, Office Mgr.; Barbara Shipman, Classified Adv. Mgr.; Ruth Howland, Secretary; Jane Groff, Research and Records Mgr.

STAFF THIS ISSUE: Night Editor, Barb Martino; Copy Editors, Jim Kopp, Judy Harkison; Assistants, Jim Tuttle, Les Powell, Dick Drayne, Barbara Hodge, Pam Chamberlain.

## Are Athletes Being 'Coddled'

An issue which has been good for some pretty big headlines nationally during the past year has finally hit close to home. However, in the case of Penn State it has hit with a somewhat less-resounding crash.

His continuous criticism (since 1952) of University policy toward athletes has earned a temporary suspension for a member of the faculty. The man charged that athletes here were "coddled" and that restrictions were definitely slackened in their cases.

This is a perennial conflict at many colleges and universities. Professors resent what they think is unfair consideration given to athletes. There is a kind of myth which has grown up around the whole thing. It is that of the big, beefy, dumb athlete who loafes his way to a degree while reaching the heights of glory on the athletic field.

No one can come out and say that this myth is either completely false or completely true. It is not a matter of black or white.

Few are naive enough to believe that no "coddling" or favoritism toward athletes goes on. It certainly does go on. It is difficult to give this treatment a name, though. The athletes aren't exactly being coddled; they are just given a little more rope than the average student who doesn't have to study under the same conditions. Apparently there have been some naive athletic directors, though. Those at Maryland, UCLA, North Carolina State, Texas A&M and a few other schools were either naive or extremely over-confident.

However, those National Collegiate Athletic Association suspensions involved giving too much financial aid and recruiting. The local protest is concerned with classroom treatment and academic standards.

As the well-known myth goes, the athletic star is entirely too stupid in high school to ever get into any college. However, coaches and other athletic officials have been scouting the lad since his sophomore year and are sure he can't miss being an All-American. So they get in a huddle with the dean of admissions and bypass entrance examinations and all other inconveniences of this sort.

So when the star is finally in school he has two jobs: to give a creditable performance on the athletic field and to pass all his courses and gain some sort of education. Many times the athletes are physical education majors. This is natural since many of them want to follow up their athletic interests in the coaching profession.

This situation means that many times the coaches themselves will be teaching the star and thus his passing these courses is almost insured.

There still remains getting by the courses outside of his major. Those horrible liberal arts and education courses which, as everyone knows, are the dumb athlete's worst menace. It's a tough problem, but most of the myths solve it by having the coaches bribe the professors into passing the boy just so he can play in the "big game."

With all this done for him the athlete has it made. All he has to do is exercise his athletic

talents for the glory of the alma mater and attend classes. Between doing these things he has himself a ball at the expense of the school and alumni.

This is the "athlete in college" myth. This is the general sort of thing against which this faculty member has been crusading since 1952. Does this actually go on at Penn State?

A case which immediately comes to minds of many people here is that of football star Lenny Moore. Moore was called the best running back to ever play for Penn State. He "rewrote the record books."

Apparently the coaches or nobody else could bribe the professors who weren't satisfied with Moore's scholastic record. After his junior year Moore was bounced out on his ear. Only summer session work got him back into play another season.

Persons who swear by the myth really think college campuses are loaded with these shiftless oafs whose only purpose in being in college is to play football or basketball or some other sport.

There are some athletes of this style. We have no doubt of this. Myths don't get started from thin air. There have to be some examples which will back up the myth. But these certainly are not in the majority. Not here or at any other university.

In fact, records will show that there are quite a few athletes who have gained national fame and have still maintained B averages or higher. These men never get headlines for this accomplishment. These facts are hardly ever shown to the public.

An athlete should not be expected to have sterling grades. The average sports fan will see the athlete only on the day of the game. Then he gives a smooth, polished performance for a couple of hours and it seems as if that's all he has to do.

The fan does not, however, see him dragging himself off the practice field after dark and eating his meal a couple of hours late and then trying to study while dog tired.

Athletes naturally need more sleep than the average student. The physical beating they subject themselves to in many cases demands this. It is only natural that studies will suffer. Also the athlete is on the road a great part of the time and this means missing class.

A professor who relaxes the regulations for athletes in cases like these doesn't need to think he is committing a sin.

However, for some reason a professor has seen fit to try to knock the University's athletic policy. Going to the governor about it, however, proved to be carrying the thing a bit too far. Athletic officials, as we have said, all over the country always expect criticism from other faculty members whose outlook seldom carries past the book in front of their noses. However, to make anyone think that athletes were turning the University's academic standards into a farce was just a bit far-fetched.

Ask an athlete how much favor his instructors give him? You'll find that when it is time to give out the grades the athlete is, by and large, just another student.

—The Editor

## Safety Valve

### Children in the Movies

TO THE EDITOR: This happens to be one of my gripes as a freshman at Penn State: Why is it that any time I go to any sort of public place, namely the movies, I come up against so many little children? On a Sunday night before vacation a few of my friends and I were at the movie at the Hetzel Union Building.

During the showing of the film there were countless hissing interruptions and comments from the children present. I go to those movies

and the ones downtown for some good entertainment and relaxation. When something happens in the show that some don't like the children begin to hiss and carry on.

I thought Penn State people were college people, not little children. I can remember in my hometown at the local theatre and even in high school there was no hissing and babylike noises during a film showing. Up here this was one of the first things that caught my attention—the child-like people who are supposed to be mature college people. Come on, children, GROW UP.

### Contest Scheduled By Camera Club

The Camera Club will hold a print competition at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday in 203 Hetzel Union.

The prints must be black and white and mounted on a 16x20 board. There is a limit of four prints a person.

The prizes for first, second and third places will be gift certificates of \$5, \$3 and \$2 respectively. First to fifth place winners will receive ribbons.

There is no entry fee for the contest.

#### Engineer Circulation Staff

The coed circulation staff of the Engineer will meet at 7 p.m. Sunday in 217 Hetzel Union.

### Rabbi to Deliver New Year's Talk

Rabbi Benjamin M. Kahn will speak on "Thoughts as '57 Begins" at the Hillel Foundation Sabbath Eve services at 8 tonight.

The freshman council will act as hosts, and awards will be presented to graduating seniors.

The Inter-Varsity Christian Fellowship will meet at 7:30 tonight in 405 Old Main. The speaker will be Charles C. Burdan, a University graduate and former member of the group.

The Newman Club will hold an open house tonight at the Student Center.

### Leonides to Hold Disc Hop Sunday

Leonides will sponsor an old-fashioned record hop from 2 to 5 p.m. Sunday in the Hetzel Union ballroom.

Porky Chedwick, Pittsburgh disc jockey from station WAMO, will spin the records.

Admission will be 65 cents. Proceeds will be given to the Leonides scholarship fund. Leonides offers a \$75 scholarship to an independent woman each year. The scholarship is based on need.

Entertainment will be provided by the Premiers, an instrumental ensemble from Pittsburgh, and the Continentals, a campus singing group.

## Little Man on Campus

by Bibler



## From Here

By Ed Dubbs

### Predictions for 1957

Predictions for 1957 From Here:

President Eric A. Walker will win the Old Main Tennis Tournament by defeating Ossian R. MacKenzie, his new assistant in charge of business matters and dean of the College of Business Administration . . .

Jayne Mansfield will marry Charles Laughton . . .

Froth will finally give up, but continue to publish . . .

Lassie will sign a \$10 million contract with the Gaines Dog Food Company to do television commercials . . .

The University will amend its Senate Regulations for Undergraduate Students to make it rougher to stay in school. This is part of Old Main's "get-to-ugh-get-better" policy . . .

Elvis Presley will join the Marines . . .

All-University Cabinet will again get bogged down with the advisability of student leaders receiving pay (sorry, that's a dirty word around here; I mean "compensation.") . . .

President Dwight D. Eisenhower will win the National Open . . .

A headline in the Dec. 31 issue of The Washington Post and Times-Herald read: "Stone Hurlied by Tourist Damages Priceless Mona Lisa in the Louvre."

Accompanying the story was a photograph of Mona Lisa's face. The caption for the photograph read simply: "Mona Lisa . . . stoned."

Why I didn't even know she drank!

With the holiday highway carnage fresh in my mind and expecting terrible road conditions at any minute, I was greeted by the following billboard message on my way back here:

"Are You Prepared to Meet Your God?"

It sorta shook me up . . .

**SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT DEPT.**—The following is from an issue of Cosmopolitan magazine:

"Coeds are much more 'class-conscious' about their necking or premarital-sex partners than are college men, according to findings of Dr. Winston W. Ehrmann (University of Florida)."

"His analysis of sex histories shows that among 265 college girls, the degree of sex intimacy was greatest with males of their own social class or higher, and least with males of a lower class. But among 575 college men, sex intimacy was greatest with females of a lower social class."

intermediate with those of their own class, and least with girls of a higher class."

Interesting? It's from the April, 1956 issue in case you're interested in reading more. I found a copy lying in the Collegian office the other day.

It is being reprinted in this column for the advancement of sociology.

## Grant Will Aid Tree Research

The Pennsylvania Christmas Tree Growers' Association has given a \$400 grant to the School of Forestry to support research on Christmas tree production in Pennsylvania.

According to Dr. William C. Bramble, head of the School of Forestry, the grant is being used to finance a research project on imported Scotch pine trees. The seedlings, now three years old, are raised at the University from seeds imported from Spain.

The grant also will support the publication of findings on control of the Pales Weevil, a pest that attacks evergreen trees. The weevil was identified by William Holt, of the U.S. Forestry Service, while working for his master of forestry degree last year at the University. Control consists of spraying the trees and eliminating fresh stumps where the weevils breed.

## 'Mad Woman' Tryouts Open

Tryouts for "The Mad Woman of Chaillot" by Jean Giraudoux will be held at 7 p.m. Sunday and Monday in Schwab Auditorium.

Scripts are now available for reading in the Greenroom of Schwab Auditorium.

A casting problem is presented to the director, Warren Smith, associate professor of theatre arts, by the need of a male fire juggler. Other unusual persons in the large cast include four distinguished mad women, a street-singer, and a deaf-mute.

The production will be presented Feb. 15, 16 and 17 in Schwab Auditorium in place of the previously announced "Idiot's Delight."