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The Daily Collegian

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May Day: Is It Worth It?

What place does May Day have at the University? Here are the pros and cons.

Last year about \$750 was taken out of the Women's Student Government Association budget for May Day. Of this about \$550 went to the Physical Plant for bleachers, their taking up and pulling down, chairs, stakes, a public address system, a throne and moving a piano.

The remainder of the money went for the hemlock used in the hemlock chain and bouquets. The making of the hemlock chain is free since women students volunteered to do this.

The bleachers hold 2000 spectators while there are about 3100 women students at the University. Of the 2000 seats about 1050 are taken by the parents or guests of the approximately 300 students who participate in the May Day festivities, the approximate 100 women who work on the hemlock chain, and the approximate 250 women who are in six WSGA committees and in hat societies who usher.

The money which supports the event comes from the WSGA treasury which means that every woman at the University pays for May Day. Only a very small percentage of these women are able to see the event. We ask: Why should most of the women students pay for something they can neither see nor take part in?

Mrs. Frank W. Montgomery, advisor to May Day, pointed out that there are many sports and cultural events that all the students have to pay for but which they cannot see.

We would say that there are a few crowded sports events which all the students cannot see, but that throughout a semester a student can certainly see enough events if he wants to so that his money would be well spent. This also

applies to cultural events. Perhaps not all students want to see sports events, but one of the fields is usually of interest to each student. Furthermore these activities do a great deal to publicize and help the name of the University.

May Day is held only once and many of the women who support it cannot see it. We do not feel that it is a credit to the University. Mrs. Montgomery said that May Day is a fine way to show the culmination of a University education to parents. She said that the beauty, grace, and dignity of the ceremony were a wonderful thing to show the parents what their daughters had obtained from college. She said that she did not think that some academic showing would have as great an effect on the parents since many of them had not had higher educations.

We disagree. May Day is unrelated to life at the University and, at best, would show the culmination of a finishing school education. We doubt if the coeds are showing much of what they have learned at the University in a May Day ceremony.

Mrs. Montgomery also said that she thought God was exemplified in May Day because it was such a beautiful and graceful ceremony.

May Day is the recognition of a few at the expense of the many and is, in a sense, lowering the University to the level of the uneducated. It is antiquated and far better suited for a high school event.

We think that WSGA would find it to its advantage to find out just what the women students think of May Day. We would suggest dropping the event after this year.

—Sue Conklin

Safety Valve

Student Films Wanted?

LETTER TO THE EDITOR: First, in the way of apology to those students who feel offended (some of them justifiably so) by not being admitted to Student Films last Sunday, I would like to say the following:

From what I hear there was quite a bit of line cutting. If I had waited in line and this had happened to me, I would be angry too. This is something that can be controlled (I should say, stopped) with correct supervision. Another way to stop this is for those who did the cutting in to stop and consider how they would feel if they had been the ones cut in on. Most of the problems last Sunday were due to the fact that some of the committee, including myself, had to be absent at the starting time for the 6:30 and especially the 8:30 shows.

Aside from the line cutting, there is the problem of seating capacity. Previously this year this has not been much of a problem. Occasionally some had to be turned away from the 6:30 show, but these are usually the ones who come late anyhow, and surprisingly these are often the same people every week. After the show has started, it is very annoying for the audience to have the doors opening and flooding light on the screen. After the show has started there will be no admittance. We think this is in the best interest of all concerned.

Students do not have to pay to see the films. A 25-cent donation is expected, yes, but if a student is low on money or forgot to bring any along he can walk in free. We leave it to the student to realize that we have costs to meet, and it is this donation that pays the bills. We have never had a problem here.

In answer to some of the more frequent questions:

As for some facts and figures, the HUB assembly seats 196, and for three showings that amounts to 588 people. I admit that this is not many compared to the student body, but at present it is the best we can do.

The reason we no longer use Osmond is because it is necessary to prepare 119 Osmond in advance for the T.V. broadcasts on Monday.

Schwab auditorium is not equipped with a projection booth, and it is against fire laws to show regularly scheduled films under these conditions. It is also fire laws that prevent us from allowing people to stand or sit in the aisles or in the back during the show.

I might add, that with all the shortcomings of the HUB assembly room, we are fortunate to have at least that. It is new, clean, the equipment is in good condition and the seats are comfortable; so let's take care of what we have and keep it that way.

Another comment made last Sunday was something to the effect, "If you can't have a setup that is perfect, why have films at all?" This is an easy question to answer. The purpose of Student Films is to bring entertainment to the students at a price they can afford. The organization is non-profit, and any money that is left is returned to the students in one form or another (e.g. the T.V. set in the card room of the HUB; money donated to the dorm councils, TIM and AIM for social functions, etc. . .) As long as we are self supporting it looks as if the students want a film committee. If, however, this is not the case, the student body should let us know, because it is much work with little thanks.

Speaking for myself, if the service is not wanted I will gladly quit. I have been on the committee for four years, and I have learned a lot by working with them. Most of the time I have enjoyed it, and I don't regret any of it. The relations between the committee and the student body have been nothing but the best. The committee is all students just like most of the audience, and we have always considered that we are all in this together.

Last Sunday, as you probably know, Theta Phi Alpha worked through Student Films to collect money for the Panhel Hungarian Student Fund. I am glad to report that a total of \$181 was collected. This was a job well done by Theta Phi Alpha and students alike. Thank You.

—Kenneth Cumblidge
Chairman, Student Films Committee

Little Man on Campus by Bibler



"I see they've patched things up."

'Round the Rim

Campus Roundup

By BECKY ZAHM

This time of year the campus suddenly revives from the winter slump and starts to buzz with activity. Ergo, I can't resist taking a whirl around University Park with a commentary on what's going on.

Last night I dropped into Schwab Auditorium to catch

part of the Barbershop Quartet Contest which was sponsored by Sigma Phi Alpha fraternity for the benefit of the Muscular Dystrophy fund. The show attracted a pretty good crowd and offered something refreshingly new to the entertainment circle.

Lynn Christy who is an English composition prof at the University and a drummer of local fame was m.c. for the contest. He retold some old jokes of 1912 vintage from Froth, campus humor magazine. Same caliber—in fact, same jokes.

While on the subject of Froth, a sign on the Mall indicates that we are soon to be blessed with another edition of the "poor man's Punch."

Just the other day heard someone mutter, "I just can't understand why Froth can't be funny?" The speaker—a Froth senior boarder.

The Ugly Man Contest is now in full swing and one contestant Izzy Schwab is creating interest with his return to the gold fish swallowing fad of yesteryear. Yesterday at noon Schwab, better known as the "Spider," gulped two goldfish before an amazed crowd. Today at 12:45 on the Mall, Schwab will repeat his performance.

Just got a preview of the program for the Naiads' Aquacade. The theme of the show to be held Friday and Saturday nights in White Hall looks quite interesting and the actual program is generally done well. Put this on your worth-going-to list.

I feel Food Service deserves

special mention for the outstanding "Special Meals" that they have scheduled this term. Usually Food Service receives complaints. But I think that the people composing it often are worthy of compliments—which people seldom take time to deliver.

Jumping from the awards to the complaints department I want to get in a comment about the Centre County Hospital Building Fund which is just winding up its drive. Granted that the drive is a worthy one, but here's a suggestion. Take some of the money and buy a first aid kit for the ambulance which serves the hospital.

Last spring a coed was involved in an accident and was taken to the ambulance. This ambulance was equipped only with a box of Kleenex. The coed died shortly after arriving at the hospital. Those who accompanied her in the ambulance could not even administer basic first aid.

How about including this when improving the hospital system? First things first.

Tonight on WDFM

91.1 MEGACYCLES	
6:50	Sign On
6:55	News
7:00	"A" Train
7:55	Sports
8:00	As You Believe
8:15	BBC Weekly
8:30	Jazz Panorama
9:00	News
9:15	Special Events
10:00	Chamber Concert
11:30	News
11:35	Sign Off

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