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The Daily Collegian

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

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Collegian Policy: 'For a Better Penn State'

(Today a new Senior Board takes over operation of The Daily Collegian. The policies it will follow are explained below. Many of these policies are long-standing and are merely restated and repledged.)

The primary function of a newspaper is to print the news — to communicate to the human race what its members do, feel and think. A relatively new role of a newspaper is to tell why something happens. It strives to do all this as honestly, fairly and accurately as possible.

The Daily Collegian's position as a newspaper is unusual: it enjoys a measure of freedom of action and expression that many professional and most collegiate newspapers do not attain.

The Daily Collegian believes its readers—mainly students—have the right to know what is going on in the world, with special emphasis on what is going on at Penn State.

In this world there is much ugliness. It would be nice if all things were pleasant—then all news would be pleasant. Because a newspaper does not make the news but is obligated to print the news, all that a newspaper prints is not pleasant.

In reporting what it finds to be true, a newspaper sometimes makes enemies. People, by nature, wish to know the truth only so long as it does not make them uncomfortable. It is only when they find themselves distressed by truth that they condemn what they consider excesses of press freedom.

This newspaper will pursue its duty as it sees it: to find, write and produce the news with maximum truthfulness and sincerity of purpose and without bias, prejudice or hope of gain, even if it knows that at times readers would prefer not to face the truth.

For many years, The Daily Collegian has striven "For a Better Penn State." This is our single motto—our single goal.

Just recently a University official told us he thought we should be a "house organ"—that we should not carry stories harmful to any segment of our community.

In other words, this administrative official believes Collegian's goal should be "Penn State Right or Wrong—But Penn State," not "For a Better Penn State." We strongly disagree.

It is The Daily Collegian's belief that the best way to a better Penn State is to praise its attributes, justly criticize its faults and present the truth about it. For to present anything but the truth would be a distortion and falsification. And falsification is not the way to a better Penn State.

Acting under its cherished freedom, The Daily Collegian is able to present the news it feels is significant to its readers. As a student publication, Collegian feels obligated to print campus news. But it does not feel obligated to print the news of any specific group or cover any specific event.

Collegian will not print publicity as such. It prints publicity only when what is being publicized is also news. Ultimately, this depends on judgment. Few newspapers can print all the news that comes into their offices. Therefore, today's editor must also be selective.

News is relative to the other news of the day. The play any one story receives depends on its importance in relation to the other stories to be printed on the same day. Ultimately, this too depends on judgment.

Collegian reporters attending public meet-

ings, we feel, have the same rights the public itself would have. If the public were at the meeting, it would hear and see all that takes place. Likewise, we feel that our reporters have the right to report everything that takes place at meetings they attend in their capacity as Collegian reporters. Off-the-record remarks at open meetings are, in fact, not off-the-record in virtue of the fact that anyone could walk in and hear them.

Since the University is supported primarily by public funds, most of its affairs are of public concern. Collegian, therefore, believes it has the right and obligation to call upon University officials for information that is of legitimate concern to the public and the student body.

The Daily Collegian supports no campus or national political party. It has, however, the right to comment upon platforms, candidates and actions of any and all political parties.

We have mentioned Collegian's relative freedom. To mention our freedom is not enough. With this freedom goes complementary responsibility. We pledge ourselves to uphold the responsibility we assume in publishing a newspaper—to keep bias from creeping into our news stories, to exercise our best judgment in coverage and play of a story, to not knowingly print a falsehood, to make corrections when errors have been printed and to continue to maintain that treating all equally and fairly is the only way to operate a newspaper.

Printing the news is only one function of today's newspaper. We mentioned that newspapers have been given the added responsibility of explaining the news—telling why something happened and its significance. Along with this goes the right to criticize. Correspondingly, Collegian recognizes it is open to fair criticism.

We feel that editorials must be fair and must present an honest, well-thought-out viewpoint. However, they need not present the popular viewpoint. We will never criticize for the sake of criticizing, and when possible will make alternative suggestions.

Collegian does not claim to represent the majority of student opinion, the faculty, the staff, the alumni or the University itself.

At least one of the functions of Collegian editorials, we believe, is to inspire students to think for themselves. Often editorials pointing out pros and cons of an issue will be printed toward this end.

In our editorials, we attempt to present viewpoints, not dogma. Therefore, editorials will represent the viewpoint of the writer, not the paper. Collegian, however, assumes responsibility for publication of its editorials.

Editorials and letters to the editor are selected for publication on the same criteria—good writing, good taste and good sense. Letters must be signed because we feel the writers must assume the responsibility for what they say. However, on rare occasions, Collegian may decide to withhold names if requested.

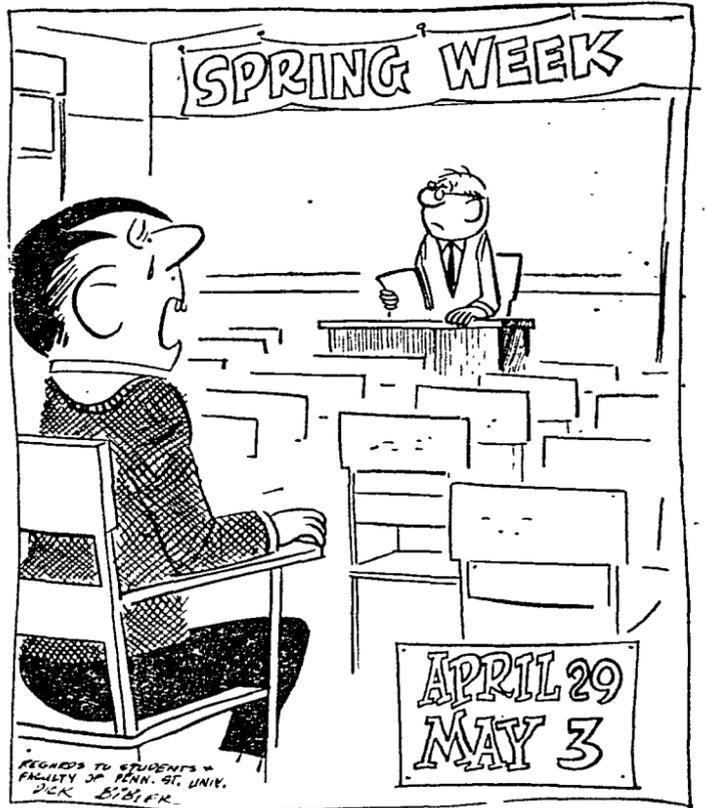
The Daily Collegian welcomes stories brought or phoned into the office for possible use. It also welcomes letters to the editor on any topic of public interest.

Last of all, but not least of all, we welcome criticism. You, the readers, have a responsibility too—to see that we do not accidentally stray from our policy: "For a Better Penn State."

These, then, are the policies we pledge ourselves to uphold.

—The Senior Board

Little Man on Campus by Bibler



"Well, you ought to know why I ain't goin' to Spring Week—you put me on 'pro'."

Merry Old England Proves Just That

By the Associated Press

Merry old England was just that last week.

The London government set the pace by introducing a new list of official publications.

Titles included:

- "Sex Life of the Elephant Seal."
- "Horseflies of the Ethiopian Region."

• "Measurement of Small Holes."
• "Seats for Female Shop Assistants."

A real life female shop assistant—inventor John Brindal's, to be exact—also contributed her bit.

Not that female shop assistants are unusual. It was just that Scotland Yard was a trifle puzzled by Brindal's recruitment methods.

Marjorie Jordan, 28, told detectives Bridal kidnaped her on his motorcycle, held her 15 weeks in an underground cave to help him work out his inventions.

Admitted Bridal: "There may have been an element of wrong in it."

Miss Clara Leach, 75, of Rochdale, England, was a prisoner, too, but she brought it on herself.

Miss Leach returned from a shopping trip to find she had locked herself out of her house.

She crawled through a grating into the coal cellar, found it was locked, too.

Help came in 36 hours.

In Wales, Lord Anglesey drew a debunking bead on a cherished Welsh tradition.

The name of the town, said his lordship, is not Llanfairpwllgwyngyllgogerychwyrndrobwl lantysilioogoch. Its only Llanfair Pwyl Gwyngyll. So there. Meanwhile, on the domestic

front, things were humming along rather normally.

Los Angeles Detective Lt. Caleb S. Mitchell was looking for the thief who stole all four hubcaps from his auto while it was parked in the basement of the police station.

And Huntington, W. Va., librarian Omar Bacon didn't ask for the \$216 in overdue fines on the book returned by a friend of the person who borrowed it April 21, 1921.

Sr. Hat Society Taps 24 Coeds

Twenty-four women were tapped yesterday for Scrolls, senior women's hat society.

The women have had no previous membership in a hat society. They have been recognized for outstanding leadership, character and University activities.

They are: Grace Antes, Roberta Armstrong, Joan Auerbach, Karen Bixler, Barbara Drum, Marilyn Elias, Phoebe Felk, Ann Francis, Joyce Fullerton, Maureen Funk, Mary Lou Hurley and Carol Jones.

Priscilla Kepner, Lynn Kinnier, Joan Kreider, Ann Ludwig, Elizabeth Marvin, Ann McKnight, Patricia Miernicki, Joyce Pfeiffer, Marilyn Roberts, Phyllis Rubinstein, Lynn Strollmeyer and Katherine Vyse.

Gazette

Today

NEW BAVARIAN SCHUHPLATTERS, 7 p.m., Westminister Hall
WSGA JUDICIAL Board, 4 p.m., second floor HUB.

University Hospital

Laura Ball, Carolyn Briggs, Stanley Burd, Joan Heilman, John Hess, Jeanne Hinkel, Andrew Jordan, Sally Kilmer, Sudhir Kumar, Richard Marks, Maxine Richter, Ira Starer, Mary Tihansky, John S. Williams.

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