

Serves University Community

Collegian Begins Its 53rd Year As Student-Operated Newspaper

The Daily Collegian with this issue begins its 53rd year of publication as a student-operated newspaper.

The first issue was published in 1904 under the name of the State Collegian. In succeeding years the name was changed to the Penn State Collegian and finally to The Daily Collegian.

In its infancy the paper was an eight-column, four-page weekly. It has grown into an eight or 12-page daily tabloid published Tuesday through Saturday mornings.

The Daily Collegian is the successor to The Free Lance, a combination literary magazine and newspaper in booklet form established in 1887. After this publication folded because of financial and mechanical difficulties, the Collegian era came into being.

From the very beginning, The Daily Collegian has been free from censorship by faculty or administration. It is one of the few college newspapers with such freedom.

The late President Ralph Dorn Hetzel was the first to clearly set forth the principle of free press at the University when he told the new Collegian editor:

"No member of the College administration will censor your copy in advance of publication."

This policy continues today.

The Daily Collegian is the only newspaper which gives complete coverage of Penn State life. Besides local coverage, The Daily Collegian is a lease-wire member of The Associated Press and provides AP coverage of state, national and world news.

The Daily Collegian is also the best way for advertisers to reach the more than 13,500 Penn State students on main campus.

In serving readers and advertisers, it strives "For a Better Penn State."

The newspaper is operated by two staffs, the editorial and the business. The editor, Edward Dubbs, senior in journalism from Waynesboro, heads the editorial staff, and Steven Higgins, senior in journalism from Philadelphia, heads the business staff.

The editorial staff is composed of four boards, senior, junior, sophomore and candidate. The senior board is composed of editors of the different departments of the paper and decides paper policy.

The junior board is the backbone of the reporting staff, and assists the senior board members in daily publication. The sophomore board and candidates also aid in daily publication by writing stories and headlines and performing other necessary duties.

In a regular eight-page edi-

tion, four pages are devoted mainly to local campus coverage, one page to state, national and world news and two pages to sports.

The business staff is divided into three departments, advertising, circulation and promotion. Each department has four boards similar to the editorial staff.

The advertising staff handles both local and national clients. Staff members sell ads to both town businessmen and campus groups. The promotion staff handles publicity, and the circulation staff delivers the papers to distribution points.

Distribution points include dormitories, fraternities, town restaurants, and the Hetzel Union Building. Papers are also circulated to faculty and town administrative offices.

The cost of Collegian to each student is included in the fees paid before registering each semester. This fee, plus advertising revenue and subscriptions sold to faculty and staff members, pay for the costs of printing. The fee pays for about half the operating costs.

Staffs will be sending out calls for candidates within the next several weeks. Candidates need not be journalism majors nor have previous newspaper experience. Time and place for meetings will be announced in this newspaper. Promotion is based on ability, interest and effort.

Little Man on Campus

by Bibler



"No-No! Th' next one—that one's full o' beer!"

Student Government: A Place Awaits You

(Editor's Note: The Daily Collegian has asked All-University President Robert Steele to write a series of two articles informing freshmen on how they can become active in student government and its rewards.)

By ROBERT STEELE
All-University President

At Penn State you will find a multitude of excellent activities in which you can participate, both to broaden your ideas and interests and to serve as an outlet for your excess energy. Naturally, the area of endeavor which I have found to be most interesting and satisfying is the field of student government and politics.

Student government at Penn State is a very large and somewhat complex field. There are many different ways in which you can serve your fellow students through student government.

Incidentally, I would like to call attention to that last phrase, "serve your fellow students." It is my philosophy that you participate in student government, first and foremost, because you want to perform a service. You will, of course, find that in so serving, you yourself, will benefit greatly from your activities. This is all well and good.

'Poor' Student Leader Pictured

But the person who goes into student government merely for what he can get out of it for himself makes a poor student leader, and hurts himself and the whole of student government. You must be willing to serve others first; then will the rewards in turn come to you.

To get back to student government, the purpose of this writing is to give you an insight into how you, as freshmen, can get started in this field of activity. Space of course puts a limitation on how complete and detailed this analysis can be, but I hope it will give you some idea of where to begin. For further information, your Student Handbook will be most helpful.

In addition, any of the upperclassmen already active in student government will be happy to give you all the help they can. In student government, as in the whole of your college career, the initiative rests squarely on your shoulders. There is available to you a wealth of help and guidance. However, it is up to you to make your wishes and needs known.

'Glamorous' Offices Explained

Simply because these offices are generally thought of as being the most glamorous, I will begin with your freshman class officers. Traditionally, the president and vice president have been men while women have held the secretary-treasurer's post.

The president's office is particularly important because he represents his class on All-University Cabinet, the highest student governing body at Penn State. These three offices are filled by means of a general election, usually held in October or November. All freshmen have an opportunity to vote for the people they desire to fill these positions.

In order to be a candidate for a class office you must first receive the nomination of one of the campus political parties. There are, at present, two parties, the Campus and Lion parties.

Within a few weeks after the beginning of classes, the parties will begin their nominating procedure to select candidates for the class offices. Candidates are selected by means of a nominating convention, similar to those held on the national level, but which we call clique meetings.

'Must Muster Enough Votes'

The clique is simply another name for a party, with each party comprising its respective clique. Just as on the national level, you must be nominated within the clique, and then muster enough support to receive the nomination of the clique as a whole.

Once the cliques have made their final nomination of candidates for the offices, a campus-wide campaign is conducted. At the end of the campaign, you and your classmates will go to the polls and elect your officers.

This discussion, I must admit, is tremendously oversimplified. As I said before, you can readily obtain all necessary details from many sources.

Collegian Policy: 'For a Better Penn State'

(Below is reprinted the policy of The Daily Collegian. The policy editorial was printed the day the present Senior Board took over operations of the paper in late April.)

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 fit; 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.

"For a Better Penn State," however, does not mean "Penn State right or wrong—but Penn State."

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 meetings, 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 by 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