

Cabinet to Air ROTC Tonight

Results Due On Student Social Poll

Student opinion of the University's recreational and social setup is being tested at the request of President Eric A. Walker through a survey taken among a cross-section of students which is now being readied for release.

Results of the study are being compiled by IBM machines and are expected to be revealed on or about Dec. 20.

The survey was taken by a questionnaire sent to 400 students on Nov. 12. The students who received the 7-page questionnaire had been statistically chosen as representing a cross-section of the student body.

The purpose of the study is to determine if recreational and social facilities have "kept pace with the increased growth of the University," and whether students are satisfied with the system as it is now.

The students were asked questions on how extensively they engage in recreational and social activities, how they feel about available facilities, and how well acquainted they are with the facilities which are available to them.

The survey, conducted by Robert G. Bernreuter, special assistant to the President, was requested by Walker after a discussion of the subject at Student Encampment last summer.

The results of the survey will be presented at the January meeting of the Board of Trustees.

The report to the board also will include a sampling of the University faculty on the subject, and results of inquiries into social and recreational facilities at other universities.

Bernreuter is being assisted in the study by a University committee and a student committee from All-University Cabinet. W. A. Kelly, a member of the University committee taking the survey, yesterday said all but about eight per cent of the questionnaires have been completed and returned.

Jazz Tickets Remain at HUB

A total of 4500 tickets for the Wilbur de Paris jazz concert will be available to students from 9 a.m. to noon and 1 to 5 p.m. today and tomorrow at the Hetzel Union desk.

Five hundred student tickets were distributed during the same hours yesterday. The tickets are available to students without charge upon presentation of their matriculation cards.

Tickets will be on sale to non-students from 9 a.m. to noon and 1 to 5 p.m. Friday and Saturday. These tickets cost \$1 each.

The concert is scheduled for 8:30 p.m. Sunday in Recreation Hall.

ONLY 16 SHOPPING DAYS LEFT 'til Christmas Vacation



Editorial Voluntary ROTC—Better for Everyone

Two alternatives face All-University Cabinet tonight—to waste time, or to endorse an irrefutable set of arguments calling for an end to compulsory ROTC.

Cabinet members will have before them 10 pages of evidence that point to only one conclusion, that compulsory ROTC is wasteful, unnecessary and undesirable.

Realizing that the report of the Senate Committee on Educational Policy which called for a compulsory 2-year course in ROTC and civil defense for both men and women was tentative and, by the committee's own admission, too sketchy, the Liberal Arts Student Council has reduced the whole matter to the really basic question of "Should we have compulsory ROTC?"

The council has answered a definite "no" to this question in a revised resolution that replaces the one presented to Cabinet on Nov. 14.

We feel that Cabinet should recommend the death of compulsory ROTC.

With warfare the way it is now—highly technological—the nation's defense would be better served by a voluntary program.

Under the present program, 91 per cent of the students in the basic course do not become officers. The four hours of class plus the hours of preparation required by ROTC could be put to much better use by these students in learning their specializations.

This is especially true in the case of scientists and engineers whose courses call for so much work and whose fully-developed talents are vital for defense.

If the Army wants these men as officers, then let them be commissioned. Millions of men have learned to march and to fire the basic weapons in 8 of 16 weeks of training after being placed on active duty.

A voluntary program would also produce better trained officers from those students who elect ROTC. More attention could be given to what would be a much smaller basic group. And they would be quite

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U.S. to Hurl 'Moon' Into Space Today

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla., (AP)—The zero hour for the first attempt to hurl an American "moon" into space was set last night for 11 a.m. EST today.

There was a chance the firing might be delayed until a later hour.

Herschel Schooley, director of information services for the Defense Department, told newsmen the start of the countdown had been set for 9 p.m., then put off until midnight. The period of the countdown is 11 hours.

Originally, the Navy had said it hoped to fire its satellite-carrying Vanguard rocket about an hour before dawn.

Technicians apparently had solved difficulties which cropped up in yesterday's work, preparing the Vanguard for the shooting.

"There were a few bugs in the rocket," said a high level source from the Office of Naval Research, "but I think we've ironed them out. It looks like we will be ready to blast off tomorrow."

If the firing is successful, the United States will have met Nikita Khrushchev's challenge to the free world to join Russia in forming a "commonwealth of Sputniks" in the heavens. The 22,000-pound Vanguard stood tall on its launching platform tonight, pointing skyward and ready for the first thrust of its powerful engines, designed to propel it 300 miles upward to the cold and mysterious frontier of space.

At the time it is released, the little moon will be about 1000 miles from the launching site. The elapsed time from takeoff

will have been 9 minutes 45 seconds.

In its bullet-shaped nose cone nestles a six-inch satellite with a radio voice which the Navy hopes to put into orbit at a speed of 18,000 miles an hour.

Paw's Twitch Not from Rain

The Nittany Lion has developed a twitch, but not as a result of the rain due after last night's snowfall.

An ROTC cadet reportedly accidentally dropped his rifle on the Lion's toes Monday. Now his whole leg shies away at the very mention of "ROTC."

But even tonight's cold front and his own injury will not keep the Lion from tonight's Cabinet meeting. He is curious to see the reaction of Cabinet—and his paw—to the controversy.

Today's high will be 45 to 50 degrees.

LA Council Approves New Report on Question

All-University Cabinet tonight will consider a new report asking for the abolition of compulsory ROTC.

Cabinet will meet at 7 p.m. in 121 Sparks.

The report will be presented by Robert Nurock, Liberal Arts Student Council president, and will replace the original LA Council measure brought before Cabinet on Nov. 14.

The new report was approved unanimously by the LA Council last night. It was approved by the council as an addition to its original resolution. It was presented by Nurock after he turned over the chair to Jay Feldstein, vice president.

Nurock cited the need for a new and more complete report because he said he could not sufficiently defend the original motion before Cabinet since it was based mainly on opinion. He said the revised report is more complete and has been better researched and, as a result, is backed by more documented facts.

The recommendations put forth in the original LA Council document remained virtually the same in the new report:

• ROTC should be made voluntary.

• Existing liberal arts and general education courses provide better citizenship training than does ROTC.

• Inclusion of a civilian defense course in the required physical education sequence.

In an analysis of the question, "Should ROTC be compulsory?" students currently enrolled in the Army and Air Force ROTC programs, only 398, or 9 per cent, become available to the armed forces as officers. These figures were obtained from the ROTC departments and the registrar's office, the report said.

Further, the report cites that between May 1, 1954 and April 30, 1955, 13,663 AFROTC advanced cadets graduated but only 9016 received commissions. The report quotes the semi-annual report of the Secretary of Defense (Jan. 1 to June 30, 1955), "Since the remaining 4647 AFROTC graduates were surplus to Air Force needs, they received certificates of completion in place of commissions."

The report states that the attitude of the Defense Department toward compulsory ROTC

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Cabinet Will Meet Tonight In 121 Sparks

All-University Cabinet will move its meeting place to 121 Sparks tonight for discussion on the compulsory ROTC issue.

The meeting will begin at 7 p.m. and is open to the public.

The move from Cabinet's permanent headquarters in 203 Hetzel Union is made for the second time this year in an effort to provide more seats for a student audience, as recommended by last year's Cabinet.

Tonight's special interest feature will be discussion of a Liberal Arts Student Council's resolution on the ROTC question.

Ronald Ross, Cabinet Public Relations director, said "We want as many students as possible to see how student government functions at Penn State. We are using the ROTC issue to bring them out and hope to have about 150 to 200 people at the meeting."

The previous meeting of Cabinet held in 121 Sparks was on Oct. 24. Approximately 25 student spectators attended the meeting where the University's membership in the National Student Association was discussed.

The LA Council's resolution asking abolition of compulsory ROTC and disfavoring formation of a Military Science School in the College of the Liberal Arts was approved by the council Nov. 12 and was tabled by Cabinet Nov. 14. Several student groups have gone on record as favoring the abolishment of compulsory ROTC. One group, the Agriculture Student Council, has opposed abolition of compulsory ROTC.



—Daily Collegian photo by George Harrison

BEAUTIFUL—BUT TREACHEROUS—Snow that blanketed the area last night made traveling hazardous. Traffic was reported nearly at a standstill, and at least one motorist required more than an hour to drive from campus to Boalsburg.