

Editorial Opinion

An Obligation

Staff members of The Daily Collegian, because of the knowledge they have gained through their work and for other reasons, often have been asked to serve in capacities outside the newspaper.

Other than not permitting membership in political parties, Collegian has no rules governing participation in activities by its editors and advanced reporters.

But because their first responsibility is to the newspaper, these staffers must be sure they are in no way influenced in the conduct of their work with Collegian—especially if they hold positions of great responsibility.

Therefore, staffers feel an obligation to decline membership in some organizations which are especially active in their effect upon the student body. This is because they believe that no matter how objectively they might view the activities of such organizations, there might remain a real or imagined air of influence, either on their part or by others.

One such organization is All-University Cabinet. Because Collegian should not make the news, but only report it, the best policy for both student government and the newspaper would be to remove the editor from voting membership on Cabinet. This should be done as soon as a satisfactory plan for Cabinet reorganization can be effected.

Another such organization, Lion's Paw, senior men's society, has traditionally tapped at least one high-ranking member of the Board of Editors. Over the years, especially more recently, several members of the board have declined bids. We would do likewise.

Only in maintaining complete independence from outside influence and from participation in policy-making responsibilities can Collegian most effectively fulfill its obligation as a free newspaper—free to praise or blame on merit alone and to work responsibly for a better Penn State.

- Robert Franklin, editor-elect
- David Fineman, city editor-elect
- Richard Drayne, managing editor-elect

That Annual Plea

The return from Easter vacation brought with it, among other things, a planting of keep-off-the-grass reminders—a sure sign that spring is here.

The campaign is an annual affair, sponsored by Alpha Phi Omega, national service fraternity. Its purpose is evident—to save as much grass as possible from extinction in order to preserve some semblance of a green campus.

Alpha Phi Omega valiantly attempts to save grass from its seemingly predestined fate while students and members of the administration and faculty work unconsciously in the opposite direction.

Obviously something has to be done. So the problem is tackled by constructing signs saying "Please keep off the grass" in a number of highly creative ways. For example, some of the gems are "I'm too young to die," "Reserved for sunshine," and "Squad—halt!"

The signs inform those who persist in taking the shortest routes across campus, regardless of the grass. But informing is all the signs can do. There are no stiff penalties for violation; and it is unlikely penalties for violators will be enacted in the future.

It is the individual's responsibility. He alone can make or break the campaign by merely heeding the pleas of the signs or ignoring them completely.

A Student-Operated Newspaper

The Daily Collegian

Successor to The Free Lance est 1887

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Letters

Two Specimens Of Womanhood

TO THE EDITOR: It is a sad thought, but today's world is going to the dogs in more ways than one.

On my return trip to college Wednesday morning, I was unfortunate enough to ride in the same car with two sorority coeds for about five hours. This iconoclastic tone is not intended to malign coeds or sorority girls in particular, but the conversation carried on by these two young specimens of womanhood was indeed disheartening to say the least.

In a world striving for security among conflicting ideologies, a world in which major sides are engaged in a deadly technological race, we find two typical female students in a large academic institution showing outward manifestation of their inward depth by discussing for five hours the latest dates, pinnings and engagements on campus.

Not once did the conversation deviate from these inane topics; not once was anything more profound than a fraternity pin mentioned. Unfortunately, these two coeds and their conversation are representative of a general campus atmosphere where learning is subordinated to social life.

Certainly this is a sign of weakness somewhere, whether academic standards need to be tightened, or some great force is needed to jolt these pupils from their inertia, no one can safely say. It is true, however, that ramblings about our deficiency in leadership and lack of initiative are well based; their subtle undercurrents lie within the simple, misplaced values of our young people in a very complex world.

—David Roy Pressman, '59

Council Committee Wants Suggestions

TO THE EDITOR: Some weeks ago, the Chemistry and Physics Student Council set up a committee to study academic honesty; more specifically, to study the possibilities of inaugurating an honor system for the upperclassmen in the college.

This system is being investigated because the faculty and the student council feel that the merits of such a program are of deep concern to the student body. Since this would inevitably affect all the students, their opinions and comments were requested. Of the 316 upperclassmen contacted, only 20 have replied.

The purpose of the student council is to serve the student. Their work, in striving for the good of the student, is greatly hampered in this respect.

Progress can not be attained without cooperation. Cooperation is the mainstay of representative government.

If these students will drop their comments in the suggestion box in Osmond Lab, it will be greatly appreciated.

—Academic Honesty Committee, College of Chemistry and Physics

Gazette

- TODAY
- Hillel Passover Services, 10 a.m., Foundation
 - Hillel Sabbath Eve-Passover Service, 5:30 p.m., Foundation
 - Interlandia Folk Dance, 7:30 p.m., HUB Ballroom
 - Interarsity Christian Fellowship Movie, "Time and Eternity," 7:30 p.m., Schwab Newman Club Mass, 7 and 8 a.m., Church Newman Club Rosary, 12:15 and 4:15 p.m., Catholic Chapel
 - Newman Club Open House, 8 p.m., Student Center
 - Penn State Players' "Boy on the Beach," 8 p.m., Center Stage
 - University Christian Association dinner meeting, 8 p.m., State College Hotel
 - WDFM staff meeting, 7 to 9 p.m., HUB Auditorium

- UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL
- Dennis D'Alessio, Mary Jean DePianto, Clifford Dietrich, Catherine Fleck, Harold Gansley, June Gurke, Lee Hammarstrom, Lucinda Hart, William Millhiser, Toni Monastero, Patricia Morrison, Susan Mort, Vicki O'Donnell, Robert Probst, Suzanne Ross, Harry Samuelson, James Schwab, Kathryn Stauffer, Carol Steever.

Job Interviews

- Companies interviewing April 28:
- Bell Telephone: BS in any curriculum for public contact work (females only)
 - Clark Brothers Co: BS in ME, Chem E, PNG.
 - Celanese Corp of America: BS MS in Chem, Phys, Chem E, ME
 - Continental Can Co: BS in ME, EE, IE, Chem E, Metal, Ag Bio Chem.
- RESORT INTERVIEWS
- Mullet's Hotel on Lake George, April 29

Little Man on Campus by Dick Bibler



"No class here 'til nine."

Tempered Topics

'Nazis Weren't Such Bad Guys'

By Ralph Manna

Currently on the movie-mart is "The Young Lions," a filmization of Irwin Shaw's novel.

One of the characters, Christian Dietsl, has been changed (at Marlon Brando's suggestion) from an arrogant German killer to a young disillusioned, peace-loving Aryan who cannot carry out his superior's brutal orders.

Critics have said this change increases the irony of the story's point—the futility of war. However, to me, this is merely in keeping with the present trend in movies—to make the Nazis look like "good guys."

I'm not advocating a standing prejudice against Germans or even against former Nazis. But certainly I don't recommend a complete about face, where all Nazis are pictured as fine upstanding gentlemen.

During World War II, the Nazis were depicted as butchers, rapists, murderers, atheists and anti-Semites. Films of this type were "This Land is Mine," "The Cross of Lorraine" and "The Seventh Cross." The Nazis were demons from Hell itself.

Now, however, the Nazis are shown as angelic beings. During the war, pictures such as "The Atrocities of Goebbels" were common. Soon I expect to see "The Life and Times of the Good Dr. Goebbels."

Where before they had no emotions, now the Nazis are depicted as sensitive human

beings. "The Enemy Below," "The Pursuit of the Graf Spee" and "The Young Lions" are three current films adhering to this code.

The Japanese, however, have not fared so well in American movies. During the war, such films as "The Rising Sun" and "First Yank in Tokyo" showed the Japs as cruel villains. Two new films, "The Bridge on the River Kwai" and "Run Silent, Run Deep," still show them as a bloody bunch. If the trend toward "good representation" keeps up though, we'll soon be able to see the Japs as "good guys" too. May I suggest "I Was a Teen-Age Kamakazi Pilot."

The Italians have gotten off pretty easy, probably because the Italian people were not entirely given over to Facism and perhaps because they were defeated relatively early in the war. Whatever the reason, films made even during the war—films such as "Sahara" and "Sundown"—showed the Italians as likeable fellows. They were shown as good-natured, spaghetti-eating men who said (in heavy accents, of course), "Mussolini made me fight but I don't believe in him or his cause."

The new philosophy behind movies seems to be: "The war is over so let's bury the hatchet. Let's show the Nazis as good

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