

Editorial Opinion

It's Up to the Students

It is fitting that the first student referendum in recent years will be used in connection with a new student government constitution.

All-University Cabinet's decision last night to use the referendum involves something greater than granting the wishes of more than 600 students who signed petitions favoring the vote.

The decision to use referendum also shows that Cabinet has confidence in and believes it has the confidence of the student body.

The new constitution for the Student Government Association represents a radical change in student life. We believe it will herald a new era of student government power and responsibility. Some believe otherwise. Now it is up to the students to decide.

Cabinet did not have to put the new constitution to a vote of the student body. It did so because it has faith in the judgment of students, believing that the students will act wisely concerning their own affairs.

Cabinet also voted for referendum because it believes that, after a careful consideration of all sides, the students will come to the same conclusion as Cabinet: that the constitution represents a step forward for all the students.

To make a fair decision, the students must give the new constitution every bit as thorough consideration as was given it by Cabinet.

Jam Session Ban Unfair

Officials of the dean of men's office acted harshly and unfairly when they decided on Tuesday to outlaw Sunday "jam" sessions at fraternities.

O. Edward Pollock, assistant to the dean of men, told a meeting of fraternity presidents and advisers last night that the dean of men's office decided to kill the Sunday jams because the number of jam sessions was increasing and numerous complaints about them have been received in his office from townspeople and even students.

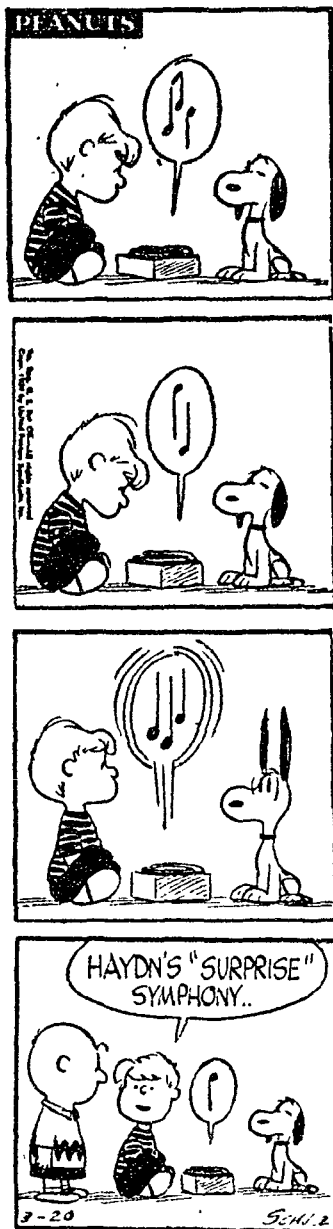
Perhaps the jams were becoming troublesome—but didn't fraternities deserve a warning before the sessions were cut out altogether?

There is a simple reason why the number of Sunday jam sessions has been increasing recently — deferred rushing has caused fraternities to use all available opportunities to entertain freshmen at parties and a Sunday jam session is usually a good opportunity.

But since this Sunday is the official pledging date for freshmen, rushing should slow down considerably for the rest of the semester. Probably the number and size of the Sunday jam sessions would have dropped off too, and the problem would have solved itself.

The purpose of last night's meeting should have been to give fraternities a warning, not issue a ban. Pollock should have told the house presidents that if the Sunday jam sessions were not handled with more decorum in the future, the dean of men's office might be forced to cut them out entirely. If he had made his point forcefully enough, the chances are good that the fraternities would have listened.

But yesterday's sudden and unexpected ban was premature and unfair.



Administrators Boil At Old Main Memo

By Bob Franklin

A good many members of the "University family" have been boiling over what they consider administration attempt to shut them up.

The object of their wrath is the following memorandum, dated Feb. 6, signed by President Eric A. Walker and addressed to "Staff, Deans, Department Heads":

"During this period in which our budget is being considered, it is important that the officers of the University speak with a single voice on matters of University policies and procedures. The officers of the University are frequently asked to express opinions on very sensitive problems, and I am afraid that these inquiries are often directed at several different officers in the hope that contradictory statements or actions can be discovered and publicized. An especially sensitive area is the matter of our Commonwealth Campuses, which is, of course, an area of concern to the central administration, the administration of our campuses, the Board of Trustees, and the advisory boards of our centers.



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"It is imperative, in dealing with matters that become public information, that all public statements be cross-checked at one place in order to prevent contradictory statements. This one place should be the Office of Public Information. All members of the staff and all deans are asked to check with Mr. Coogan (James H. Coogan, Jr., director of Public Information) before making statements on which the University may have taken a public stand officially."

Is this an attempt to impose a "gag rule" on University officials?

Quite a few officials who received the memo think it is.

Not so, however, says Coogan. "It's not what it sounds like," he said Wednesday. "It's not a censor business" and applies only to statements con-

cerning the budget request." He said the memo came as a result of one official's out-of-turn statements about the University's budget request. The newspaper reports of the statement, he said, raised some commotion in Harrisburg and "caused the president a lot of embarrassment."

But a different interpretation came from C. S. Wyand, vice president for development and, next to Walker, probably the most powerful individual in Old Main.

When asked about the memo Wednesday, he said, "I certainly concur with it... All the president is trying to do is to see that (an administrator) knows what he's talking about before he makes a statement."

Wyand said he thinks the terms of the memo should apply to all situations where an official is speaking as an official on matters of University policy, especially concerning the University's long-range development program.

This would not prevent an official from expressing personal opinion concerning the University, he said, although "I would think if he's a responsible administrator he doesn't sound off without coordinating this thing."

If the memo was written in the heated reflection of an outburst from a minor official trying to make University policy and if it reflects only a desire to coordinate policy statements on the budget, its only effect probably will have been creating some resentment.

But if the memo means exactly what it says, then it is another instance of the University's long-standing "public-be-damned" philosophy of not letting the students and most of the faculty know exactly what's going on behind Old Main walls — a philosophy which we thought had taken a back seat this year to the University's desire to inform and educate.

Gazette

TODAY
Astronomy Discussion Group, 7 p.m., 212 HUB
Christian Fellowship, 12:30 p.m., 218 HUB
Interlandia Folk and Square Dance, 7 p.m., HUB Ballroom
Intersarsity Christian Fellowship, 7:30 p.m., 214 Boucke
Oratorical Contest, 7:30 p.m., HUB Assembly Hall

UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL
Arnold Bleiweis, David Byers, Lee Campbell, Mary Ann Cimmons, Graeme Cowen, Arthur Diness, Janice Frank, Patricia Gardner, Lucien Girard, Elaine Goiman, Glenda Grimmer, Paula Jerro, Marvin Kaplan, Leena Linni, Bonnie McKee, Mona Lou Minder, Larry Morris, Richard Peck, Mary Plasteier, Dan Rees, Linda Rosa, Hette Robinson, Geraldine Sermatter, Patricia Spath, Fredrick Woltman, Michael Wartella, Stephen Weber, John Young, Zorina Zorek

Job Interviews

APRIL 9
Equitable Gas Co.: BS: ACCTG, BUS MGT, ECON, FIN MKTG, PNG, CE, ME, GEOL.
S. D. Leidesdorf & Co.: BS: ACCTG, Strawbridge & Clothier: BS: LA, LMR, BUS ADM, HOME ECON, ED, IE.
The Budd Co.: BS & GRADS: ACCTG, Gimbel Bros.: BS: BUS ADM, LA, ED, HOME EC.
Anchor Hocking Glass Corp.: BS & GRADS: ACCTG, BUS MGT, ECON, FIN, T & T, CER TECH, CH E, CHEM, CE, IE, ME, LMR.
Phileo Corp.: BS & GRADS: EE, ME, CHEM, PHYS, CH E, ENG SCI, AERO E.
Republic Aviation Corp.: BS & GRADS: EE, ME, CE, PHYS, MATH, JRS. & GRADS: EE, ME, CE, PHYS, MATH, for summer employment.

APRIL 10
Ernst & Ernst: BS: ACCTG.
Continental Can Co., Inc.: BS: ME, CH E, CER, IE, METAL.
Hughes Aircraft Co.: BS & GRADS: EE, PHYS, MS; EE, PHYS for summer employment; PHD: ME, AERO E.
The Budd Co.: GRADS: EE, PHYS, CHEM, CH E.
The Cincinnati Shaper Co.: BS: EE, IE, ME, METAL; MS: EE, IE, ME.

Camp Interviews

The following camps will interview at the Student Employment Service, 112 Old Main. Appointments must be made in advance.
Camp Adahi, Reading, Pa., (Women), Apr. 9, 10.
Camp Conrad Weiser, Reading, Pa., (Men), Apr. 13, 14.

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

G	A	F	F	E	L	B	A	S	P	L	I	T
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S	C	O	L	D	O	L	I	N	A	M	B	I
H	A	N	D	S	N	E	O	N	L	E	E	S

Little Man on Campus

by Dick Biber



"Hey, Burwell—I got a TUTOR with my correspondence course."

Fifty-four Years of Student Editorial Freedom

The Daily Collegian

Successor to The Free Lance, est. 1887

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ROBERT FRANKLIN
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