

Editorial Opinion

Vote 'Yes' for a Better Penn State

At stake today are the rights of the students to effectively administer their own affairs and to vigorously promote their own interests.

By their own votes today, tomorrow and Thursday, the students will determine whether or not to accept the first major reorganization of student government in 20 years.

The new constitution calls for a separation of powers into the three distinct branches of executive, legislative and judicial; a legislative body completely elected by direct vote of the students; and a widening of the powers and responsibilities of student government to include more areas of action involving more students—especially underclassmen.

The proposed constitution is designed to replace a system based on the theory that students can best be represented by the presidents of the groups in which they have a special interest.

By substituting the theory of direct representation for the theory of "interest groups," the new plan would change the whole basis of Penn State student government.

This is a change long overdue.

Student government tying together the interests of living areas, college councils, classes and extra-curricular activities was a great advancement when it was instituted in 1939.

But that type of government cannot serve the needs of the 25,000 students who may be on the main campus by 1970. Nor can it adequately serve the needs of the 14,000 students now on campus.

Student government at a large university, to be effective, must be dedicated to the student body as a whole—and must be directly responsible to its constituency.

Implied in the new constitution are a greater political responsibility on the part of student leaders; a comprehensive committee system to parallel committees of the faculty, administration and trustees; and

a generally more vocal, more powerful student government.

Students of the future should be able to build political careers, since they will be eligible for election to the Assembly through all four years of college. A record of ability and responsibility could return a qualified student leader to office again and again, giving the Assembly the experienced personnel it would need and providing added student confidence in the leadership of the Assembly.

And political parties of the future should be more than organized conventions to choose candidates and run campaigns. They should take a vital interest in legislation and administration, pressing for fulfillment of their principles and platforms by the students they helped put into office.

One of the major causes of past weak student governments has been a state of relative disorganization. Student leaders often have been at a loss concerning the powers and functions of faculty, administrative and trustee committees, where University policies essentially are formulated.

A student committee system, organized on a somewhat parallel basis should give students direct channels for their proposals and should also allow them to fix responsibility for the success or failure of their ideas within the maze of University organization.

These aspects of the new student government constitution could give students the powerful organization they so desperately need to be heard above the noise of the construction machinery and administrative control that are building a greater Penn State.

The constitution itself cannot give students the leadership they need, for no government is better than the men and women who administer it. But the new student government can give those men and women the machinery they need to work for the best interests of all the students.

They'll Establish Precedent

The Student Government Association officers to be elected this week will set precedents that will affect students for many years to come.

These officers should not be elected by a mere handful of students who are voting only because one of their fellow club members know someone on the ballot.

Regardless of any feeling concerning student government and its effectiveness, students must realize the importance of this week's elections.

Providing the SGA plan is approved, the SGA president will have veto power

over all legislation passing through the popularly-elected Assembly. He will be the link with the administration charged with promoting student interests in such important matters as expansion.

The SGA vice president will preside over the Assembly and will be the second voice of the students in the absence of the president.

Strong student support is a necessity to choose the best officers and Assemblymen.

Weigh each party's platforms, consider the personalities and their qualifications and vote, man, vote.

Little Man on Campus by Dick Bibber



"I thought the associated students' hazing committee ruled out paddling."

Letters

Coed Decries Sensationalism

TO THE EDITOR: Congratulations. You have left the ranks of college newspapers and are now playing in a major league namely, the New York Daily News. Heretofore your front page held only world-shaking topics such as IFC sing winners and the type of weather needed to play cricket, but today you add sensationalism.

I am referring to your test-less account of a coed's overnight absence. May I ask why, when all other names are withheld, as in Tribunal cases, this girl's name was given? I'm surprised you didn't print a candid photo. You're slipping up.

—Carole Rosenbloom, '60 EITOR'S NOTE: The name of the coed in question was released by police officials. It is the policy of The Daily Collegian to use names in police and court news when they are public information. Student courts, however, have adopted a policy of refusing to release names of students who appear before them.

Gazette

- TODAY American Institute of Chemical Engineers, 7 p.m., 28 Mineral Science ASAE, 7:30 p.m., Simmons lounge Christian Fellowship, 12:30 p.m., 218 HUB Commuting Women, 12:30 p.m., McElwain commuters' lounge Delta Sigma Pi, 7:30 p.m., Sigma Pi Education Student Council, 6:30 p.m., 212 HUB Faculty Bowling League, noon, HUB ballroom Fraternity Counselors, 7:30 p.m., 217 HUB Freshman Advisory Board, 7 p.m., 216 HUB Freshman Regulations Board, 12:30 p.m., 212 HUB Fraternity Circulation Staff, 6:45 p.m., 214 HUB Intercollegiate Conference on Government, 7:30 p.m., 203 HUB Judicial, 5:15 p.m., 217 HUB Leadership Training Class, 7 p.m., 214 Boucke Leonides Rehearsal, 7:30 p.m., HUB ballroom Neu Bayrischen Schuhplattler, 7 p.m., 2 White Reorganization Committee, 7 p.m., 214 HUB Slavic Club, 7 p.m., HUB assembly hall Student Government Association Elections, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., HUB, Boucke, Home Ec. Sackett, Sparks, Forestry Wesley Foundation, Communion 6:15 p.m.; choir rehearsal, 6:45 p.m., Wesley Foundation WRA Tennis Club, 6:30 p.m., 3 White UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL Raymond Abrams, Clair Askew, Richard Babcock, Ellen Barufkin, Louise Bederka, Albert Blackhurst, Herman Cardoni, Valerie Cavanagh, Elizabeth Clarke, Janet Cohen, Majala Cohen, Newell Coxon, Richard Fineberg, Paul Gran, Thomas Kirshner, Harry Klapper, Janice Lenson, Donald Meyer, Francis Ollin, Donald Paxton, Margaret Sanders, Sally Stiver, Evelyn Wilson.

WDFM

- TUESDAY NIGHT 6:55 Sign-On & News 7:00 Marquee 7:15 Memories 7:55 Pennsylvania News 8:00 Mind The Music 8:55 Sports News 9:00 Just New in Literature 9:15 Artist Series Preview 9:30 Forum of the Air 9:55 Campus News 10:00 Background 10:05 Sinfonia Time 11:30 Sign-Off WEDNESDAY NIGHT 6:55 Sign-On & News 7:00 Telephone Bandstand 7:55 Pennsylvania News 8:00 Greek Quis 8:30 Music And Then Some 8:55 Sports News 9:00 Jazz Panorama 9:55 Campus News 10:00 Background 10:05 Virtuoso 11:30 Sign-Off THURSDAY NIGHT 6:55 Sign-On & News 7:00 Potpourri 7:30 Album Review 7:55 Pennsylvania News 8:00 Starlight Review 8:55 Sports News 9:00 Just New in Music 9:15 Washington Reports 9:30 Rho Tau Sigma Presents 9:55 Campus News 10:00 Background 10:05 Chamber Concert 11:30 Sign-Off

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PEANUTS comic strip panels. Panel 1: "ALL RIGHT, NOW THIS IS WHAT WE CALL 'SLIDING PRACTICE'!" Panel 2: "I WANT EACH OF YOU TO COME INTO THIRD BASE AND DO THE BEST SLIDE YOU CAN!" Panel 3: "EVERY TEAM HAS TO HAVE A CLOWN.."