

## Editorial Opinion

## Proudly Stands Our Alma Mater

First of a Series

(EDITOR'S NOTE: The Daily Collegian wishes to end its 1958-59 staff year with a discussion of the University's accomplishments in today's editorial, of its problems in an editorial tomorrow and of its future, Thursday.)

"Penn State is an outstanding state university," President Eric A. Walker wrote recently. "I believe I can say without qualification that Penn State is the best public university east of the Ohio river. We compare favorably in almost every respect with such distinguished institutions as the Universities of Michigan, Illinois, Wisconsin, Minnesota and California."

All too often students and others so close to the University fail to realize its tremendous strides forward since "cow college" days.

The University has a long and enviable academic record.

It established the first laboratory method of instruction on a wide scale in 1886; the first soil fertility experimental plots in the United States, 1881; the first organized extension course in mining in the U.S., 1898; the first correspondence instruction in agriculture, 1892, and the first formal correspondence courses, 1898.

The University also erected the first U.S. college forestry building in 1906; the first respiration calorimeter in the world for domestic animals, 1902, and the first calorimeter for studies in dehumidification, 1948; the first mineral industries experiment station, 1919.

Also to the University's credit are the first organized curriculum in fuel technology, 1939; the first formal training in industrial engineering, 1908; the first training course for teachers of safe driving, 1936; the first Institute of Local Government in the U.S., 1935; the first organized curriculums in meteorology, mineral economics and mineral preparation engineering.

In addition to these academic achievements, the University has received national acclaim for its work in chemical engineering, bacteriology, biochemistry, geography, geology, economics, psychology, chemistry, agricultural economics, rural sociology, philosophy, history and political science, to name only a few areas of study.

More than 1200 research projects are being conducted this year by faculty members. These projects are financed by \$8.5 million provided by federal and state governments, corporations and individuals.

Penn State research includes the nuclear reactor; the Ionosphere Research Laboratory, the best of its kind in the nation; and the Groth Institute, world headquarters for the study of crystallography. Research done at the University has enabled Pennsylvania farmers to in-

crease their earnings by \$75 million yearly and has saved state and municipal governments many thousands of dollars.

The University plans to more than double the funds spent on research by 1970.

The University is increasingly recognized for its academic achievement through both the stature of its alumni in business and the professions and through the research and publications of its faculty.

In addition to developing a solid academic program, the University has taken a lead in establishing new educational techniques.

It has developed a system of centers and campuses to provide public higher education all across the state. Now it is developing a system of 2-year colleges to fill more closely the specialized needs of many of today's youths.

The University has been acclaimed for its counselling program; it is one of the top institutions in the nation in education-by-television; and it is a leader in extension courses.

Nor has the University neglected the phases of education which go beyond the academic.

Penn State is known as a school rich in tradition where students can learn to know and work with each other; it has fostered social and recreational growth along with academic achievement.

The University's activities, fraternity system, 11 major intercollegiate athletic teams and outstanding intramural sports program have helped promote the social and recreational aspects of education.

The University's standing has been gained only through the hard work and devotion of thousands—administration and faculty members, alumni, trustees, students and townspeople.

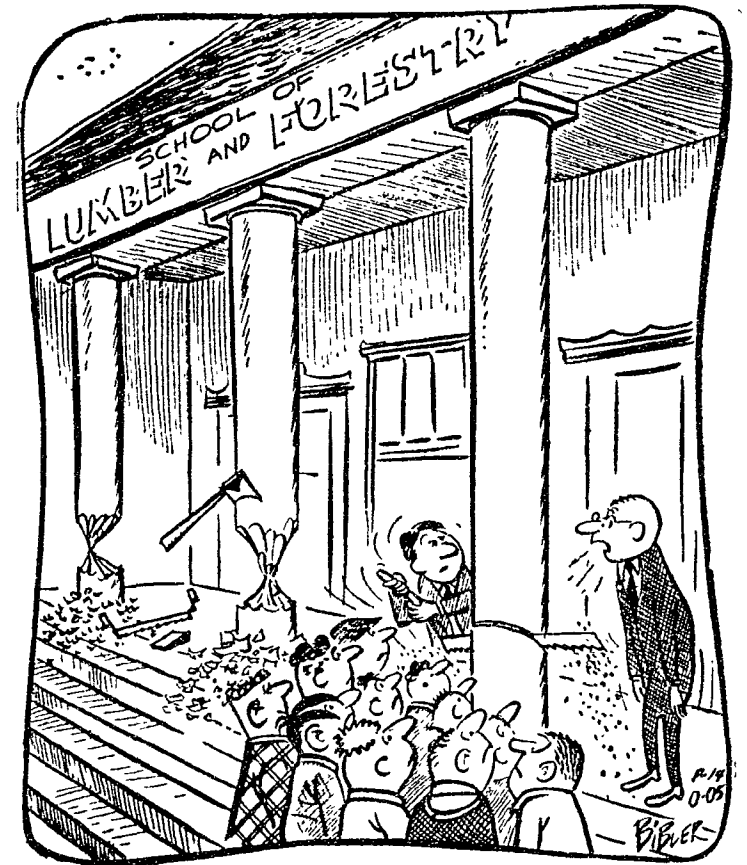
They have planned the University's academic and physical future—and have brought those plans into being. They have constructed new buildings, developed new academic programs, oriented new students to the institution and its environs, spoken and sent news releases over the state to create a favorable climate of public opinion.

They have worked to bring the University the talent and money it needs to advance; to keep student fees low and academic standards high; to pass on tradition and spirit; to plan and work for students who should have a public higher education in 1970 and beyond.

According to a recent public opinion poll, the University is regarded by the many, many people of Pennsylvania as the state's finest institution of higher learning.

The University's record of achievement shows that no one need ever be ashamed to be a Penn State student.

## Little Man on Campus by Dick Bibler



"The Dean wants to know if you'd wait to demonstrate techniques on th' day your class goes to the woods."

## Words to Spare

## Please Don't Let The Color Fade

By Dick Drayne

A senior I know is fond of saying, when comparing the University now with what it was like when he first knew it, that "the trouble with Penn State now is that there are too many students coming here."

By this he meant not that the enrollment is too high, but rather that too great of a percentage of present-day Penn Staters are studious. He yearns for the days when there were fewer scholars and more "goof-offs."

He's being rather harsh, of course. His remark really is to the University's credit, for it shows a rise in educational prestige and in the seriousness of its student body. But there is a hint of truth—and a warning—in what he says; and it's something, I think, that the University and its students should remember.



DRAYNE

Penn State has built up a considerable academic reputation in recent years, and its graduates now bask in the light of quite a bit more prestige than they would have enjoyed in the past. I hope the prestige will continue to increase—and I know it will. But not, I hope, at the expense of color.

Or, to be blunt: If Penn State becomes nothing but "grinds," it's going to be one hell of a dull place to spend four years.

I like the character, for instance, who wears bermudas to a football game in the snow in November. I like the one with nerve enough to appear at his Saturday eight o'clock on a big weekend in his tuxedo. Or the one who will sign a phony name on a seating chart, then see how long he can keep the professor believing in his invention.

Or the fraternities that will interrupt a quiet evening to issue a snowball battle challenge, or to take a newly-pinned brother and throw him in a fish pond, or stay up all night working on a Spring Week float and not feel they've been wasting time when they find they haven't won a prize.

I like the students who will take off an afternoon to hold a tobacco-spitting contest. Or the ones who try to climb the obelisk. Or the ones who wouldn't miss Friday afternoon at the Skellar, or Saturdays at a jam session.

I like the freshman in ROTC.

who, when asked his name by an upperclass officer, looked panicked for a moment and then screamed "I don't have any" and ran off down the street. And another who tried to get out of common hour by being carried to drill on a bed.

And the senior who used to visit the old Cave for Stegmayers and sticky buns on Saturday mornings of big weekends. And . . . yes, even the business students who make a ritual of Boucke step-standing.

Perhaps every senior thinks things were more colorful in the old days than they are now.

(Continued on page seven)

## Gazette

TODAY

Agriculture Student Council, 7 p.m., 212 HUB  
Air Force Glee Club, 7 p.m., HUB assembly hall  
American Foundrymen's Society, 7 p.m., foundry classroom  
Christian Fellowship, 12:30 p.m., 218 HUB  
Collegian Credit Staff, 7 p.m., 215 Willard  
Collegian Local Ad Staff, 6:45 p.m., 9 Carnegie  
Commuting Women, 12:30 p.m., commuters' lounge, McElwain  
Float Parade Committee, 8 p.m., 217 HUB  
Freshmen Council, 6:30 p.m., 217 HUB  
Freshmen Regulations, 12:30 p.m., 212 HUB  
German Club, 7:30 p.m., Eisenhower Chapel lounge "The Amazon in Literature and Other Places," Dr. Helen Adolf  
Intercollegiate Conference on Government, 8 p.m., 203 HUB  
Judicial, 3:15 p.m., 217 HUB  
Leadership Training class, 7 p.m., 214 Boucke  
Neu Bayrischen Schuhplattlers, 6 p.m., 117 Carnegie  
News and Views Junior Board, 2 p.m., Elm Cottage  
Outing Club, rock climbing division, 7 p.m., 317 Willard  
Panhellenic Council, 6:30 p.m., 203 HUB  
Science Fiction Society, 7 p.m., 218 HUB  
Senior Class Advisory Board, 8:30 p.m., 216 HUB  
UCA Cabinet, 8 p.m., 217 HUB  
Wesley Foundation, communion, 5:15 p.m.; choir rehearsal, 6:45 p.m., at the foundation  
Women orientation counselors for fall, 10 p.m., HUB assembly hall  
WRA Tennis Club, instructions, 6:30 p.m., White

UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL

Thomas Clements, Kent Cootes, Judith Davis, Larry Deaven, William Eberhardt, Charlotte Flack, Judith Good, Herbert Greenberg, Allan Keiser, Thomas Kirshner, Arden MacHilton, Wayne Magargal, Bessie Matson, Carol Montgomery, Robert Pasmore, Robert McCracken, Louis Sculise, Alexandra Stowson, Barbara Wollard.

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