

Editorial Opinion

What's the Matter With Penn State?

Second of a Series

Take a long look at some of the things that have been going on at Penn State in recent years:

- We have some "temporary" engineering buildings that have been "temporary" almost since World War I.
- We have faculty salaries substantially lower than those at eight comparable Eastern and Middle Western universities.
- We have fees approximately one-and-a-half times higher than those of comparable universities.
- We have a town with the parking and traffic problems of a city of more than 55,000 population
- We have students who, by a 3-to-1 ratio, refused to vote in the last spring election
- We have an administration which gave itself lavish gifts in the name of the students every year for a decade.

Consideration of these long-range problems and dozens of others leads to the inescapable conclusion that all is not well at what President Eric A. Walker calls "the best public university east of the Ohio River"

Certainly no institution's staff and students can allow such situations and still make the progress they desire.

What's the matter with Penn State?

We all know many things which have been the matter with Penn State over the years. Yet here we are making even non-long-range mistakes that could be avoided:

- We have lost student recommendations in the faculty-administration Senate-Go-Round for periods of up to seven months.
- We have told 1958 seniors that we won't use their class gift as they intended—not because it is impractical but because it is not necessary to strengthen the instructional program.
- We have a recently revised code of conduct for women students—which although improved, is still based on standards brought forth from the last century.
- We have a fine system of television networks to teach some of the more basic courses—yet, we use the system to broadcast the instruction of some professors least adaptable to it.

• We seem to be continually behind in getting things accomplished, whether it be installing a pizza oven in the Hetzel Union Building, building a dam at Stone Valley or constructing new residence halls.

It is too great an assumption to consider that all the above-mentioned situations are isolated instances. It seems to us that some more basic faults are involved.

What's the matter with Penn State?

Penn State is suffering from a king-sized hangover—physically, educationally, emotionally.

Poor physical planning in the past is exemplified by the many discordant styles of architecture on campus; by the position of the West Halls and the West Campus fraternities on land that now should be used for classrooms; by relatively poor parking and traffic facilities.

Poor educational planning in the past

is evidenced by the fact that the University too often has neglected the "liberal" for the "practical" arts; that the University in essence has no basic college of arts and sciences around which every great university is built—a situation which apparently has been considered grave only recently.

There is a feeling that the University did not do all it could have done to gain state support during some years in the past. Nor has the University always had a most active alumni.

And planning both by and for students can be regarded only as fair in consideration of the work of some past student governments and many of the social and recreational facilities students don't have.

But the headaches we now are feeling may well pale before an onslaught of new problems that may arise from present and future policies.

What's the matter with Penn State?

Penn State lacks the dynamic leadership needed to build a great university. We have the able, dedicated men who could do the job—and many are trying to do it.

But we can only surmise that we also have the grand old system of mammoth back-stage faculty-administration-trustee power and policy wars—a system that makes for anything and everything but a program of unified advancement and smooth administration. We have inherited a time-honored organization that paradoxically permits neither real, dynamic administrative leadership nor fair and complete hearing of student and alumni views.

Oh, yes, we have made great strides as of late—but it has been in spite of "the system."

Our University is populated with a lot of fine faculty and administration members—members who too often neglect the University's future for their stake in it, who are too scared for their jobs to consult with students.

We have adopted the fine policy of courting our alumni—who give money but not advice—and ignoring our students—who give advice but not money.

And if you think the University lacks something, look at the borough and the students.

State College is woefully inadequate to meet the needs of the students—professionally, commercially, municipally, socially. Certainly the University has neglected its responsibilities on the other side of College Avenue.

And if we call State College provincial, what do we call the students? Many of us have little interest in what goes on outside of University Park, our home town and our draft board. Many of us have been willing to leave the administration of student affairs to a little group of seniors which often have adopted all the liberalism of a wounded animal dragging in the underbrush.

What's the matter with Penn State?

Not a thing. Not one thing that won't go away if we continue to pretend it isn't there—as so many of us apparently want to do.

Little Man on Campus by Dick Bibler



"Over here, Henry, I'd know our boy's room—ANYPLACE!"

et cetera

Motherly Rules Rule Out Reality

by Dave Fineman

The only thing I can think of that we on the campus have in common with the world is fallout.

And this University is determined to keep us as out of touch with reality as possible.

Which is kind of frightening, since we graduating seniors must clutch now when we think that our education is not over, but just beginning. We've been pressed into a state of regression by the motherly rules that:

• Women must be home by 10 p.m., unless they're seniors and have 3.2 averages, which by some logical process makes them more grown up after dark. Does reward for scholarship have anything to do with maturity or morals?

• Names of even very serious rules and morals offenders may not be known so that we may protect the reputations of those who themselves have shown that they care little for their reputations.

• All campus organizations have been gathered up into a little basket so that their funds can be counted and the growth of their members checked in the process.

• Students must attend classes. This means that we have less judgment and maturity than our European counterparts whom we, as full American citizens, will be expected to lead.

Some of these stringencies,

it seems, will disappear. For example, we'll have so-called community living soon, although this is an unfortunate term, since there is little that resembles a community on this out-of-the-way campus with its four levels of rule and responsibility.

Others, I fear, will be increased, such as the tighter and tighter hold the University is taking on organizations.

And, again on the other hand, we may, in the future, have unlimited class cuts, if the Uni-

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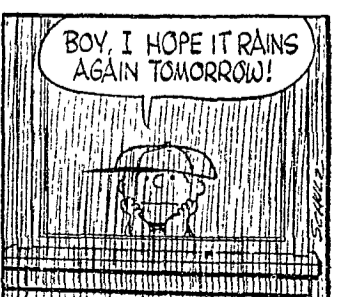
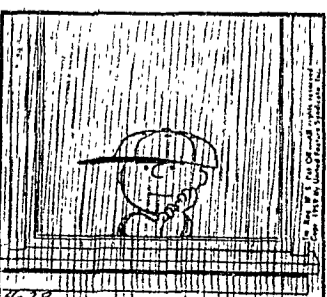
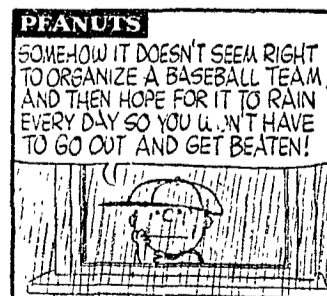


FINEMAN

Gazette

TODAY

- AIM Judicial Board, 7 p.m., 218 HUB
- BX Candidates, 6:30 p.m., 214-216 HUB
- Cheer Club, 7 p.m., 7 Sparks
- Christian Fellowship, 12:30 p.m., 218 HUB
- Clover Club Meeting, 7:15 p.m., 111 Tyson
- Constitution Committee of Freshman Advisory Board, 7 p.m., 211 HUB
- Engineering-Architecture Council, 6-15 p.m., 212-213 HUB
- Kappa Phi Initiation Service, 7 p.m., Wesley Foundation
- Newman Club, Professor Case Lecture Series, 7 p.m., 101 Chapel
- Choir Practice, 7:30 p.m., Our Lady of Victory Church
- Sigma Theta Epsilon, 7 p.m., Wesley Foundation
- FIM, 7 p.m., 203 HUB
- UCA Fireside, 9:30 p.m., Thompson Lounge
- Women's Choir, 8 p.m., HUB Assembly Hall
- WSGA, 6:30 p.m., 217 HUB



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