

Editorial Opinion

# The Big Secret

The Penn State football team held a closed door meeting Wednesday night at which it voted in favor of playing in the Liberty Bowl Dec. 19.

However, immediately after the meeting, Director of Athletics Ernest B. McCoy said that no action had been taken.

Just who are we trying to kid? The "secret" vote leaked out yesterday in a story by the Associated Press.

The net result of this gross misstatement of fact was a degrading of the University and McCoy himself plus possibly losing a chance for any other bowl bids.

Now that all other bowl selection committees know that the team favors the Liberty Bowl, they would be foolish to invite the Lions. It would undoubtedly mean being turned down, thus inferring that their bowl is not as good as the Liberty Bowl.

The reasoning behind keeping the results of the vote a secret is valid. However, it is almost impossible to keep anything secret when over 50 people already know it.

A much more logical step would have been to vote after the Pitt game. The Liberty committee certainly would have waited since there is no other Eastern football power available.

However, nothing can be gained by bemoaning the slip of news of the team's vote. But, it should serve as a lesson which has not yet been learned by the administration.

Hushing up a story merely means a lot of embarrassment and loss of face when it eventually leaks out. A straight, honest report would prevent this.

# Half Holiday—Why Not??

Not since 1955 has the University declared a half holiday for students, and with the Liberty Bowl game approaching, we think it is about time to renew a request.

Not since 1948 has Penn State participated in a bowl game, and it is natural that a large number of students will want to see this one. But Saturday classes may prevent many students from attending.

Classes are officially scheduled to end at 11:50 a.m. Saturday, the day of the game. It would be virtually impossible to travel to Philadelphia in time for the opening kickoff.

Attempts were made in 1957 and 1958 to get half holidays for the Penn game and these attempts were thwarted by administrative officials.

Now it is time to consider the students and give them an opportunity to see the Liberty Bowl game. Students this year have displayed extraordinary spirit, both on and off the football field. A fitting reward for such spirit would be to permit all students to attend the game without the fear of the consequences of cutting classes.

Granted, students without Saturday classes will be cheering the team in Municipal Stadium, and officials may feel that no great loss of student backing will occur just because those with classes cannot attend.

But let's give all students who made the trips to Beaver Field on Saturday afternoons the opportunity to see the game.

It isn't too much to ask for. And it's even less trouble to grant.

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55 Years of Editorial Freedom

# The Daily Collegian

Successor to The Free Lance, est. 1887

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# Statements Give Indications of Summit Trends

By J. M. ROBERTS  
Associated Press News Analyst

Three things occurred yesterday to indicate the trend of discussion which will take place during the next several months before a summit conference.

The Soviet Union reiterated that it didn't intend to try to throw anyone out of West Berlin, but repeated its threat to sign a separate peace treaty with East Germany unless the Allies agree to get out.

Great Britain assured West Germany that her willingness to talk about limiting armed forces and the Berlin problem did not mean she was entertaining any idea of military disengagement in Central Europe.

On the point of disengagement, the United States has only recently reiterated that planned troop cuts do not have anything to do with her firm intent to keep her divisions facing the Reds in Germany.

If the Berlin situation undergoes little or no change, the effect of a separate peace treaty between East Germany and the Soviet Union becomes problematical.

It might have some nuisance value, but unless the Soviet Union actually backs her puppet regime in interference with Western traffic, an act for which she would be held directly responsible by the Allies, the concrete results promise to be small.

# Gazette

TODAY  
Astronomy Discussion, 7 p.m., 218 HUB  
Christian Fellowship, 12:45 p.m., 218 HUB  
Interlandia, 7:30 p.m., HUB ballroom  
Penn State Christian Fellowship, 7:30 p.m., 111 Boucke  
Philosophy Club, 7:30 p.m., 217 HUB

HOSPITAL  
Patients in the University hospital yesterday were: Richard Austin, Frederick Benner, Jocelyn Binns, Lois Blank, Ruth Brandon, Leslie Bremen, Janet Colvin, Paul Cosover, Charles Ebert, Barbara Feit, Harry Griffiths, James Harberger, Marcia Hartwick, Stanley Johnston, Beth Kantor, Walter Kearney, Roger Kochman, Lynne Lafferty, Elizabeth Larkin, John Malenky, Richard Mazza, William Popp, Michael Raiser, John Richards, Barbara Roth, Andrew Sack, Joel Slipakoff, Nancy Stewart, Gail Tuk, Helen Winnick.

# Grad School Exam Set

Graduate Record Examinations will be held at 8:30 a.m. and 1:45 p.m. tomorrow for students seeking admission to graduate schools.

# Letters

## Student Blasts 'Idealists' Who Urge Voting

TO THE EDITOR: On every election, important or not, some little idealist with a halo shining brightly above his head and the American flag waving in his hand, bemoans the fact that people don't take advantage of their privilege to vote.

If these little idealists stopped speaking and started thinking, which could prove a little unflattering, they might realize that their very appeals contradict the ideals that people have fought and died for. First of all, people have fought, not to guarantee the privilege to vote, but to assure themselves of the right to vote.

They reasoned that if governments were based upon people, the people had the right to choose the government. This type of reasoning is easily accepted by the people, but I suppose it is much too simple for the intellectual idealists.

The second fact is that a freedom does not only indicate the right to choose between several items but also indicates the right not to make a choice. Freedom of religion would be seriously endangered if everyone were forced to go to church, even though he had a choice of churches and religions.

Every conceivable freedom to do something would be worthless if we did not have the freedom not to do it. It should be obvious that not voting does not imply an indifference to the right, but simply means that the negative quality of the right is being exercised.

I often wonder when these little idealists talk about the privilege to vote—do they include themselves in the group that is granted this privilege, or do they think they are one of "those" who have so generously granted us this privilege?

—Robert Battle, '61

## Road Improvement Asked by Student

TO THE EDITOR: I would like to inform the Campus Maintenance Department of the existence of a road along side of the Creamery, connecting Curtin Rd. and the North Halls.

It is currently used by several thousand students each day, except, that is, in inclement weather. Unfortunately, when it rains, the many holes in this surface fill with water, and reduce this 12-foot wide road to a 1-foot wide zigzag obstacle course.

If any of the Physical Plant workers would care to take a few moments' time out from raking leaves, I would be glad to show them where this road is located.

—Tony Gitt, '62

## Coed Supports Mascot Request

TO THE EDITOR: Referring to Mr. Barsky's letter — Collegian, Nov. 18:

In asking for a live mascot for Penn State, I think a very good point has been made. I have heard several alumni—my own father being one of them—speak in favor of a real Nittany Lion. They even suggested that perhaps a "class gift" could be a live lion for Penn State.

I have one point to make referring to the letter; our Nittany Lion is a mountain lion—puma, panther, cougar, etc. — and as such, while a member of the cat family, is not usually called "the king of the beasts." I hope that Mr. Barsky was considering a "Nittany Lion" for our mascot. I might point out that the mountain lion is usually considered more dangerous to work with by most trainers so this differentiation causes no loss in prestige to our mascot.

I think that if feeding and caging problems could be worked out, the mountain lion should be allowed to return to the Nittany Valley. I sincerely hope that more students—and alums—will get behind the idea and give us a real mascot.

—Deborah L. Wells, '61

## Stand Upheld On ROTC Edit

TO THE EDITOR: Let me add some noisy applause to your editorial of today, blasting the concept of compulsory ROTC.

I fear that the military, like the poor, we shall always have with us. They seem to be one of the unpleasant necessities of a modern university, like Kampus Kops, beatniks, and football players.

Neither military needs nor fears of the draft nor common sense can justify compulsory ROTC. For those who want to be soldiers, let them. For the rest, their time at the University is all too brief to waste any of it recruiting, saluting or shooting.

Perhaps a 1-year general course in the Armed Forces, such as you suggest, would be a happy compromise. That is, if anything of academic value can be found within the military.

—Edwin Hirschmann, Graduate Student

## ChemPhys Teachers Will Hold Conference

The annual Conference of Chemistry and Physics Teachers of the Commonwealth Campuses will be held here today and tomorrow.

The conference will consist of visits to chemistry and physics classes and lectures by people in these fields.

## Little Man on Campus by Dick Bibler



"SAME PLAY AGAIN, AN' THIS TIME TRY TO PLUG UP THAT HOLE, WORTHAL."