

Editorial Opinion

Individual Responsibility

President Eric A. Walker said at the convocation opening Orientation Week that students would have to accept more individual responsibility in their college lives.

Walker pointed out that the expanding University made it virtually impossible to maintain a close relationship between professor and student. Larger classes are necessary to handle the increased enrollment. This means that students are being forced to work on their own or flunk out.

The honor system, whereby examinations are given with no proctor, was one of the first steps toward more individual responsibility. The College of Mineral Industries is operating its advanced courses on this basis.

Another forward step that could be taken would be to initiate unlimited class cuts.

The Chemistry-Physics Student Council plans to present to the University Senate a proposal for unlimited cuts for students with a 3.5 or better All-University average.

Many colleges and universities throughout the nation have unlimited cut systems. European universities generally have the same policy. But the question is, can it work at Penn State? Quite a few administrators, faculty members and students think it can.

Unlimited cuts would instill even further the idea that you get out of something only what you put into it. It would undoubtedly serve to give students a more mature and more realistic attitude toward life. It would also develop personal initiative, a necessity in the post-graduation working world.

The period during transition from a definite no-cut to unlimited cuts would be a difficult one. The Chemistry-Physics council's proposal is one idea. This, at least, should be accepted, with a goal of unlimited cuts in the near future.

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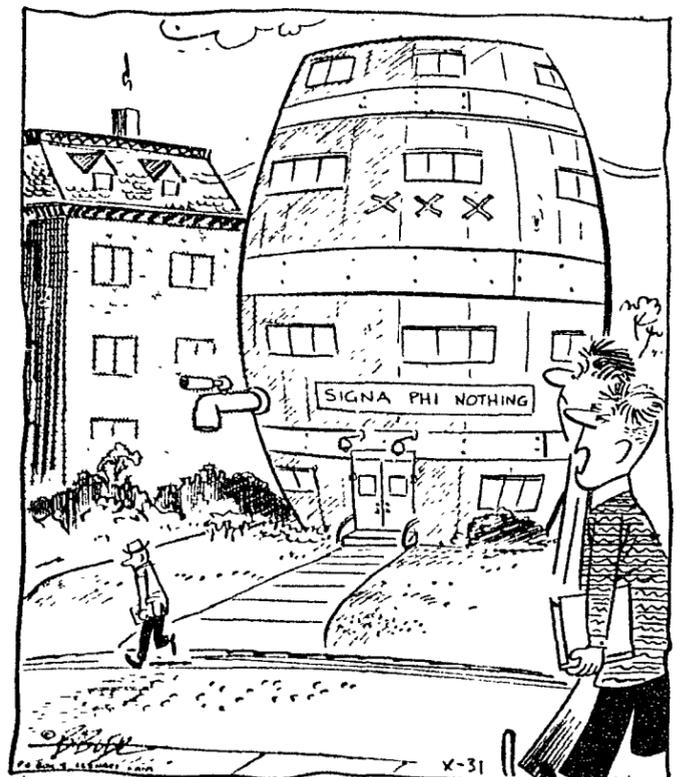
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Little Man on Campus by Dick Bibler



OH, THEY HAVE A LOT OF FUN ALL RIGHT, BUT THEY HAVE A RATHER SHABBY REPUTATION.

Letters

Flag Wavers 'Shot Down' By Carter

TO THE EDITOR: In regard to super-patriot Johnstone's contribution (letter in Thursday's Collegian), my 14 months in Korea, during which I was rather regularly shot at in a 4-point zone, added little to my ability to judge the actions of my government. (Any serviceman who is not blinded by high regard for his "contributions" will readily admit that the battlefield, where unbiased information is at least difficult to come by, is perhaps the worst place in the world to come to an intelligent decision as to what constitutes reasonable expectations in regard to loyalty and what constitutes suppression.) Should we not concentrate our attention on fundamental issues here rather than on our patriotic emotions?

Mr. Gerheart: paying interest on a university loan rather than submitting to a requirement in which I don't believe seems like a small contribution and hardly merits the erroneous conclusion that I couldn't possibly need money. Have we really reached a point at which we can't believe a person is willing to make sacrifices for an ideal? I hope not!

The man who, on grounds other than those of "Conscientious Objector," refuses to sign a loyalty oath for induction into the armed forces is not inducted and is prosecuted accordingly. In 1952 I signed the standard loyalty oath. At that time, I had no real philosophical objection to this requirement. Had I had one, I doubt that it would have sustained me on a path leading inevitably to prison. Therefore, I don't consider my actions in this area as inconsistent.

Please note that I am ignoring such jewels from these letters as "misguided kiddies, worshippers of the trivial, pseudo intellectuals," "idiotic interpretation of an oath," "sadly lacking in brainpower and original thinking" — on the assumption that such expressions condemn themselves and their writers in the eyes of those readers to whom I am interested in communicating.

By the way, did you happen to notice President Eisenhower's Wednesday press conference comment which went: "When we single out any group of citizens and impose a loyalty affidavit on them as 'a matter of legal compulsion,' then he could 'see why they are resentful.'"

Perhaps Mr. Eisenhower needs letters to straighten him out. some Johnstone, Gerhart-type

—Kenneth Carter
Graduate Student

Letter Cut

Gazette

- TODAY: AIM-Leonides Dance, 9-12 p.m., HUB ballroom; "John Gabriel Borkman," 8 p.m., Center Stage; Shakespeare Festival Players, "The Tempest," 2:30 p.m., and "Measure for Measure," 8:30 p.m., Schwab; University Christian Association Faculty Colloquy, 2 p.m., Nittany Lion Inn; TOMORROW: AIM, 7 p.m., 203 HUB; Bible Fellowship, 2 p.m., 214 HUB; Block "S" Club, executive committee, 3 p.m.; committees, 3:30 p.m., 206 HUB; Chapel Service, Dr. Kenneth I. Brown, 10:55 a.m., Schwab; Chess Club, 2-5 p.m., HUB cardroom; Chimes, 6:30 p.m., Simmons 2nd floor lounge; Circa Staffs, 7 p.m., 205 Boucke; Emerson Society, 6 p.m., 216 HUB; Entre Nous, 1:45 p.m., 217 HUB; Graduate Group, Westminster Foundation, 6 p.m., 214 HUB; Graduate Student Bridge, 7 p.m., 212 HUB; International Relations Club, 4 p.m., HUB assembly room; Journalism Club, Christmas Party, 7 p.m., Pi Kappa Phi; Newman Club, 7 p.m., 218 HUB; Protestant Service of Worship, Rev. Theodore Braun, 9 a.m., Helen Eakin Eisenhower Chapel; Roman Catholic Mass, 9 a.m., Schwab; Sigma Delta Chi, 6:30 p.m., Chi Phi fraternity; SGA Committee Center Integration, 5 p.m., 218 HUB; Speech, Dr. C. Cruise O'Brien, 4 p.m., HUB auditorium; Swedenborgian Service, 10:30 p.m., 212 HUB; USF, 9:30 a.m., 217 HUB; MONDAY: A Phi O, 7 p.m., 212 HUB; Botany Club, 7 p.m., 218 Buckhout; Christian Fellowship, 12:45 p.m.; 7 p.m., 218 HUB; IFC, 7 p.m., HUB assembly room; Leonides Council Meeting, 6:45 p.m., 203 HUB; Library Expansion Committee, 8 p.m., 203 HUB; SGA Cabinet, 8 p.m., 217 HUB; Women's Orientation Counselors, 10 p.m., 214 HUB

re-FLECK-tions

Old Favorites Turn New Frights

by cathy fleck

Much emphasis has recently been placed upon improvements of television programming, but there seems to be another field of entertainment, namely popular songs, which could also use some renovation.

Over Thanksgiving, I visited a home where some children were watching that ever-popular nationwide TV show—American Bandstand.

Much to my amazement, I recognized strains of "God Bless America" coming from the television set. My first reaction was one of pleasant surprise because of this sudden wave of patriotism.

But not for long. It took only one glance at the set to notice that the song had been popularized to meet the standards of modern dancing. Yes, many teenagers were gaily hopping around the dance floor while a sparked-up crooner went through the entire song.

A similar reaction came over me not too long ago upon hearing "Danny Boy" sung for a dancing audience by a screaming, so-called record artist. The shock of hearing "God Bless America" aborted to the standards of the dancing set made my former lukewarm toleration for many popular songs turn quickly to disdain.

Now, instead of worrying about deception encircling the



MISS FLECK

quiz broadcasts, I began to wonder what madmen are governing the song industry?

It might have been the natural surge of strong patriotism during World War II which resulted in my familiarity with that song. But I keep thinking of children now learning "God Bless America" in kindergarten or the early grades who rush home after school to watch Dick Clark promote it in the form of a dance hall ballad.

Could it be that the songwriters cannot find anything else to appeal to their fans now that they have promoted Elvis, Fabian, etc.? What has happened to the former guideposts of artists—originality and ingenuity? It probably won't be too long before the "Star Spangled Banner" (cha-cha-cha) joins the ranks of 'modernized' songs.

Dick Clark has a job to do in promoting current songs. His teenage audience has to have something to dance to. But I hate to see these aims accomplished at the expense of a grand old song with lasting popularity—one that has stood while many others have fallen.

Letters

Nittany Wants More Phones Chapel Hours Questioned

TO THE EDITOR: In a recent article in the Daily Collegian I read that through a recent survey there was no need for any improvement in the University's telephone system.

I wonder if Mr. Diehl, who conducted this survey ever thought of investigating the telephone situation in the Nittany area. In Nittany, there is exactly one telephone for 46 people.

I have waited to use this phone not after just one person but after a half dozen or even more people had used it.

There is considerable room for improvement in the telephone situation in Nittany. We are a part of this large and growing University which I feel should be felt by the people in Old Main.

—Hershel Richman, '64
Leonard Lichty, '63

—Another letter was received from John Holz, '63, stating the same complaints as Richman and Lichty.

(Editor's Note: The administration is very concerned with making students at the campuses feel a part of the University. Perhaps a little could be done along these lines for Nittany.)

TO THE EDITOR: It has always been my contention, perhaps erroneous, that one of the major functions of the Helen Eisenhower Chapel was to offer a place for prayer and meditation for students and others. I was informed that when the question of keeping the Chapel open around the clock was initially discussed, that at least two factors intervened that support the present scheduled hours:

(1) People were not interested in meditation and prayer to the extent that it would warrant its remaining open. (2) The lack of adequate funds and personnel enervated any move toward this end.

Perhaps this question is relevant: must we now institutionalize or schedule the time or moment of our personal meditation or prayer?

—Kinzo Yamamoto.
Letter cut Graduate Student

