

Mitchell, 'Joe College' of the 1890's, Touring Jazzman Was 'The Firstest with the Mostest' Prefers Teaching

By JERRIE MARKOS

What happens to a boy who, with a few friends, causes such a stir that it moves the Board of Trustees to allow dancing at college functions?

Getting the board to lift their ban against dancing was just one of the many firsts in the life of a man destined to lead.

In the first LaVie, printed 70 years ago, appears again and again, the name of one of its editors—H. Waldon Mitchell. Few men can list as many "firsts" as "Mitch." Besides being a charter member of Beta Theta Pi and Theta Nu Epsilon, he was one of the founders of the Free Lance, predecessor to The Daily Collegian.

As a senior he was a member of The Seven Sleepers, a group in direct opposition to the never-popular Association of Early Risers. His ardor for things extracurricular is shown by his dedication to The Mutual Admiration Society.

An extract from the constitution of this character-molding organization reads:

"The number of members of this Society shall be limited to two. No vacancy shall be declared until one of the two shall have permanently left the college, then a member may be elected to fill the vacancy upon the unanimous vote of the remainder."

The 1959 version of "Mitch" might be branded "Joe College," a joiner, a rah-rah college man—but the love of his school and the unselfish service and devotion he has shown it lasted long after the days of the Junior Hop and The Mutual Admiration Society.

In 1902 Mitchell became a member of the Board of Trustees, and in 1914 was the first alumnus to hold the office of president of the board. Mitchell led again at the 25th reunion of his class. He was the only Penn Stater to present the commencement address.

A lifetime resident of Pittsburgh, in 1919 he was appointed judge of Orphan's Court. By 1929 his duties as judge forced him to resign the presidency of the Board of Trustees, a position he held for 25 years.

Mitchell's reflections on Penn State and the 1917 La Vie which was dedicated to him, are now a part of the Penn State Collection in the Pattee Library.

Officially, "Mitch" was no longer connected to Penn State, but the tradition went on in his daughters, Adaline and Lois and continued even to his granddaughter, Anne Cameron Forn-crook, of the class of 1949.

Judge H. Waldon Mitchell spent the last weekend of his life on campus during 1943 Homecoming celebration when he attended the Penn State-Colgate football game.



H. WALDON MITCHELL, one of the most active men ever to attend the University, went on to become one of its better-known alumni, "Mitch" was one of the founders of the Free Lance, predecessor to The Daily Collegian.

Art Hodes and his Dixieland band will give the first jazz concert of the academic year at 8 p.m. tomorrow in Schwab Auditorium.

All student tickets and non-student tickets have been distributed or sold. This is the 10th Artists Series program of 1959-60.

Hodes divides his time between playing dates in his home location of Chicago, teaching piano lessons at the Park Forest Conservatory and touring with his 6-piece band. He prefers teaching because he "can't dig living out of a suitcase" any more, he said.

Hodes and his band play Dixieland jazz as opposed to New Orleans jazz, blues, modern or progressive jazz. In an article that Hodes wrote for "The Second Line," he stated that jazz is changing—it is getting louder and noisier. He finds the best audience is the one that will listen intently and softly keep time to the beat.

Hodes also said in his article that jazz is changing because of television. The musicians are aware of being watched closely and often they become self-conscious and do not let themselves

go—"their vanity overcomes their artistry."

The jazz concert was originally scheduled for Recreation Hall but was moved to Schwab Auditorium because of a slow ticket distribution, according to Mrs. Nina Brown, chairman of the committee.

"Schwab will be large enough to accommodate the audience," she said.

The Artists Series committee has requested that students do not save seats for the late comers.

The next Artists Series program will be the Chicago Opera Ballet with Melissa Hayden and will be given in February.

Chem Prof Continues Research Under Grant

Under a 3-year grant of \$13,500 from the National Science Foundation, Dr. Maurice Shamma, assistant professor of chemistry, is continuing research he has been conducting for some years on the chemical structure of organic compounds of plant origin.

Shamma is extracting plants found in Pennsylvania or obtained from abroad to find what compounds they contain. He is looking especially for alkaloids, and trying to determine the structure of any such base found.

Hat Men, Women To Give Serenade

Hat men and women will serenade the campus tomorrow with Christmas caroles.

Members of Chimes, junior women's hat society, along with Blue Key and Androcles, junior men's hat societies, will start their caroling at 8 p.m. at the West Halls. They will sing at all the dormitories on campus.

The hat societies will also serenade students in the infirmary.

After caroling they will hold a Christmas party in the Chi Omega suite.

Midshipmen Band To Play at Games

A band composed of NROTC midshipmen has given permission to perform during three home basketball games, according to Glenn N. Thiel, professor of physical education.

The 35-piece band will be directed by Kenneth Hall, junior in labor management relations from Springdale.

This group, plus a jazz combo, will entertain at the home game against Syracuse on Tuesday; West Virginia, January 9; and Pitt, January 23.



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Zippe Gets Fellowship

Kurt Zippe, graduate student in mechanical engineering from Clayton, Del., has been awarded a fellowship from the United Aircraft Corporation, Hamilton Standard Division, for the current academic year.

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