

Editorial Opinion

# Assembly Shows Promise Along with Growing Pains

The SGA Assembly has struggled its way through its first full semester without providing conclusive proof as to whether it will be a worthwhile legislative body.

Since the full body of 42 members was not installed until after the November elections, the Assembly has actually only been operating for about two months as a complete body.

Thus far, the reorganized system of student government has not proven overwhelmingly superior to the former All-University Cabinet. On the other hand, it has not been proven inferior, but it seems to have been operating on about an even level with the old system.

The beginning of the semester was occupied with assemblymen wrangling in parliamentary hassles over little business other than acceptance of Student Encampment reports. The net result was that students began condemning the new system as impractical.

During this time, the Assembly tangled with an Encampment recommendation to have the president chair the Assembly and also to provide for elected class officers beneath the presidential level. Both were deferred until after elections since the body was only serving as an interim group and could not take action on constitutional amendments.

Once the full body was installed, the Assembly took on new life. It fought for and got a half-holiday before the Liberty Bowl football game. It adopted an ROTC report which called for a long range switch from a compulsory to a voluntary program.

Assembly mulled over and then committed recommendations on the new parking regulations. It recommended that the ban on student driving on Pollock Rd. be dropped for Sundays, and after 5:30 p.m. weekdays and 12:30 p.m. Saturdays.

Assembly followed up Encampment recommendations by pushing for a combined Artist-Lecture Series and establishing a Block "S" Club. The Assemblymen then came to the fore in behalf of its student body by demanding a cleanup-paintup-fixup project for the Nittany residence area.

Assemblymen, after a slow start and much petty bickering, have settled down to some solid business transactions. However, the body must now rely on the committees it established this semester to come up with substantial reports for action.

Parking and food service committees now hold the spotlight for Assembly action. The Reorganization Committee is readying reports on the two key issues of president-vice president in the Assembly chair and class officers — elected or appointed.

The Intercollegiate Council Board must be counted on to step up into the more important role cast for it in the reorganization planning. Thus far, ICCB has not taken on an important role.

The reorganized SGA system showed this semester that it can live up to its expectations. But it showed this only on occasions when the whole Assembly joined in intelligent debate. The issues SGA fought for and won were accomplished through concrete reasoning and diplomatic dealing with the administration. Past lessons should be applied in the future.

A Student-Operated Newspaper  
55 Years of Editorial Freedom

## The Daily Collegian

Successor to The Free Lance, est. 1887

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Letters

### 'Signs' Column Defended On Satirical Basis

TO THE EDITOR: Saturday's Collegian had quite a bit of adverse comment about Mr. Malick's column, "OK, Let's Play With Signs," in Thursday's paper.

I noticed that Miss Bergstresser seems to feel that "mature" journalists do not "make wisecracks." I wonder if she has ever heard of a fairly successful journalist named Max Shulman? If Malick's writing is "absolutely ridiculous," you will have to come up with a superlative for "absolutely" when talking about Shulman.

It was encouraging to see that we have three freshmen capable of recognizing satire. However, they say Mr. Malick's article "fell short of its goal," and then contradict themselves. If you check with Webster's Dictionary you find that the editor was quite successful with his satire — "That which calls down ridicule upon itself or something related to it" — Enough said?

I liked the comment about Malick's "simple" mind. Maybe the three complicated freshmen will get to be a little simple too, after they have been here for four years.

Incidentally, has anyone ever heard of the apparently obsolete practice of putting a building's name above its entrance?

—William Walsh, '60

### Nittany Climate Inspires Jingle

(To the tune of "Nittany Lion")

Every college has its weather  
Passed on from year to year.  
To which it's acclimated  
But sometimes cannot bear;  
And of all the rotten places  
One is far worse than the rest,  
It's the cloudy Nittany Valley,  
That really flunks the test.

Hail on the mountain, skies are not blue,  
Hail Alma Mater, with her snowfalls too.  
Penn State for weather, too rough for men;  
Fight that old northwind, Fight! Before it storms again.

There's Greenland with its glaciers,  
And China with typhoons;  
Africa's tornados,  
And India's monsoons.  
Now put them all together,  
It's really quite unfair;  
For when it comes to weather,  
We get the Lion's share!

### Gazette

TODAY  
AIEE and IRE, 7:15 p.m., MI Auditorium  
Air Force Glee Club, 8:30 p.m., HUB assembly  
Christian Fellowship, 12:45 p.m., 215 HUB  
Physics Colloquium, 4:15 p.m., 117 Osmond  
University Park Federal Credit Union, 8 p.m., 205 Boucke  
WDFM Live Broadcast, 7:15 p.m., HUB Assembly

HOSPITAL  
Rosalind Abes, Richard Biddle, Marian Black, Jean Bliss, Richard Brane, Peter Broaca, John Carnwath, James Collins, Michael Connelly, Kent Coates, Michael Corrado, Judith Davis, Larry Deaven, Michael Deeny, Francis Gomez, Earl Harbaugh, John Hillman, Richard Holmquist, John Huddart, Nancy Hughes, Gale Klingensmith, Kenneth Klinger, Thomas Kulp, Joseph Kunsman, Michael Lazorchak, Linda Leber, Thomas Malone, Anne Marren, Hisako Matsubara, Jerry McMurdy, Leonard Miller, Eleanor More, Janet Munroe, Daphne Parker, Robert Petrosky, Neal Prosen, Charles Reeves, Robert Schalm, Quentin Seltz, Thomas Sramek, Robert Stillman, Robert Swid, Valerie Turner, Freya Weister, Victoria Wentz, Diane Zimmerman.

### Ceiga to Perform Own Composition

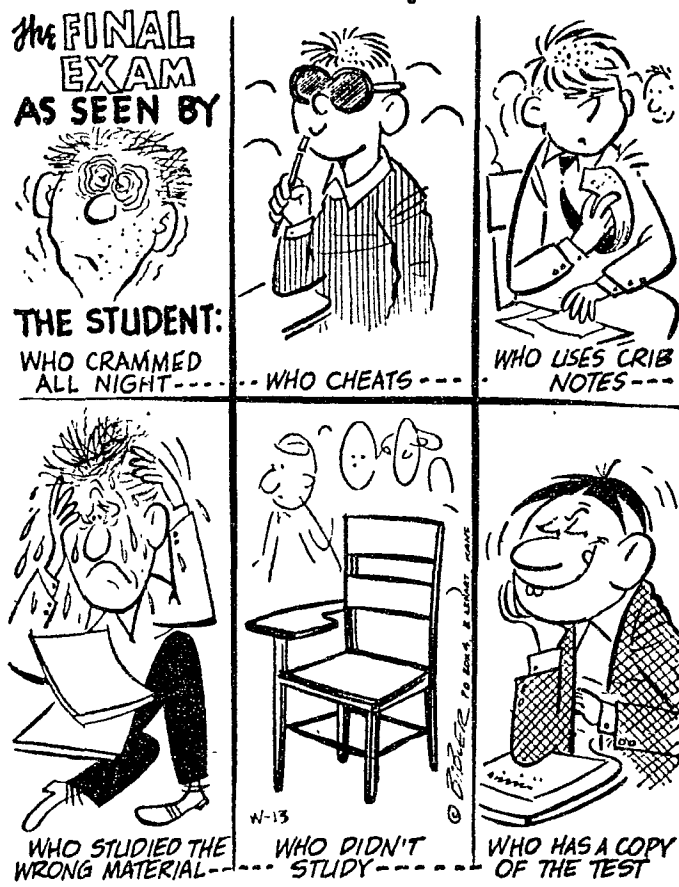
George C. Ceiga, University organist, will play his own composition "Mirage," at his second organ recital of the season at 4 p.m. Sunday in Schwab Auditorium.

He will also perform two numbers by J. S. Bach, "The Old Year Hath Passed Away" and "The Great Prelude and Fugue in G Major."

The rest of the program will be "Cantabile" and "Piece Heroique" by Cesar Franck, "Sonata — B Flat Major" by Thomas Arne, "Introduction and Toccata" by William Walond and "Pageant" by Leo Sowerby.

### Little Man on Campus

by Dick Bibler



Blackboard

## Schweitzer — Hero Or Shattered Idol?

by Johnny Black

"Albert Schweitzer would never again be tolerated in Africa."

This statement was made by a college-educated Nigerian student leader at an international student conference at Ohio University two weeks ago.

As we shocked Westerners pick ourselves up from among the rubble of our shattered idol, let's analyze the reasons for this statement.

Though admitting that Schweitzer is a "wonderful humanitarian," this African, who holds a degree in law from the University of London and has held several editorial positions with newspapers in his home country, said: "Schweitzer has never bothered to learn the language or employ an African doctor or nurse."

What he is inferring in this — that Schweitzer never made a concentrated effort to enter into an intimate relationship with the people, to understand them and to have a true concern for them as persons.



Black

It was the feeling of this African that Schweitzer's concern was not for the African people but rather for his work and self-gratification of achievement.

Several other African students attending the conference shared these sentiments toward Schweitzer. "What good is a man who knows everything, if he does not teach another," said one.

Evident also was a slight resentment towards Schweitzer's

world recognition and especially his 1952 Nobel Peace Prize.

"There are Western missionaries in Africa," the student leader said, "who are doing devoted work and are much closer to the ideal of the suffering servant, but have not won world recognition."

Whether we accept this harsh judgement of Schweitzer or not, there are some insights we can draw from this if we are aware of the long-exploited peoples and the long-dormant cultures that are arising under the banner of nationalism in what have too long been referred to as "backward" regions of the world.

The noise of World War II awoke these sleeping peoples. Since that time the number of nations gaining independence in Southeast Asia, the Middle East, Africa and Latin America has increased almost geometrically.

These new countries are demanding a voice in world affairs.

A sincere challenge is presented to the rest of the world — how to accept these peoples. They are being educated, and with this education comes, naturally, a seeking of fulfillment of self as a being in modern society.

But what they seek is not only a passive acceptance by

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Letters

### Student Wants to Retain Finals

TO THE EDITOR: In your recent editorial you favored "complete elimination of final exams in favor of term projects and papers."

How could these possibly measure, like final exams do, the students' understanding of the subject material of his course?

If a subject concerning the subject material were assigned, it would be a simple matter for the student to write such a paper (or project) using his textbook as a crutch and wouldn't necessarily show any understanding of the material!

On the other hand, if some

subject indirectly related to the course material itself were assigned, this would be defeating the purpose of such term projects: that of measuring the students' knowledge of the course itself.

But even if these two problems could be overcome, what would stop students from using fraternity files and similar sources for the completion of these projects? I sincerely believe that this plan would introduce many more drawbacks than are now contained in the present system.

—Paul Jacobs, '61