

Editorial Opinion

About That Lion's Paw

An organization which periodically "makes the headlines" around the campus has done it again. The issue of Lion's Paw influence is again before us.

How much influence does this organization have in the affairs of student government and is it a front for administrative control of student activities? These two questions have arisen persistently over the years.

In 1954, the All-University Cabinet debated and defeated a motion to warn Lion's Paw that unless it ceased political activity the cabinet would take steps to revoke its charter.

In 1958 both John Bott and Jay Feldstein, then candidates for All-University president, admitted to the Collegian editor that Lion's Paw probably did exert some influence on student government. Feldstein accepted his bid to Lion's Paw.

A move to investigate Lion's Paw activities was also made and subsequently killed in 1958.

It appears that the only way to eliminate the stigma that surrounds Lion's Paw is for the group to make a general statement explaining the organization or an explanation of its activities.

Perhaps the pamphleteers have drawn illogical conclusions by connecting unrelated events. Did Lion's Paw's influence get Vince Marino appointed elections committee chairman? Was there Lion's Paw influence in the attempted election fix? Did Lion's Paw engineer the meeting at which Tim Nelligan and John Brandt were asked to resign as chairmen of their respective parties?

The pamphlets being circulated to the administration and faculty by John Brandt, Alan Elms, David Byers and Harald Sandstrom imply all of these things. However, in their charges, these four students have not given any concrete proof of validity of their charges against the present Lion's Paw group.

If true, the alleged minutes in these papers prove that past Lion's Paw members have definitely influenced student government to a point where this influence could be considered dangerous.

But what about proving the validity of the charges against present members of this "secret organization?"

Any "secret" organization which contains so many members holding high positions in student government and activity circles is bound to be suspected from time to time. Perhaps this organization should not be so secret about its activities while operating under a professed banner of "what's best for Penn State."

If Lion's Paw really operates merely to carry out its high-sounding ideal, an explanation of its activities would not hinder this objective. If, however, its main purpose is to influence and attempt control of student activities, there is no reason for its existence.

The Daily Collegian

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Letters

Senior Hits SGA Action On Vacation

TO THE EDITOR: Congratulations! Hurray for Student Politicians! In four years you finally managed to accomplish something, that is, taking some important days from a vacation. Like taking candy from babies? Couldn't have been easier or less painful.

Fortunately, I graduate, and do not have to risk life and limb coming back through the New Year's holiday traffic. It seems to me some other foolish gentlemen and women in the disguise of virtuous politicians fought very hard so that we students would not have to travel on this dangerous (400-500 fatalities) weekend. I'm sure you get the picture, I don't want to belabor a dead horse, or politician, but I didn't see one constructive suggestion. Well, contrary to popular belief, a lowly physics major can come up with a suggestion for the gods of activities.

The spring semester ends June 5, seniors graduate June 10, and intersession June 12 or 13th. Now there is a period of about one week from the end of finals and the beginning of the first of summer sessions. Why not move the entire spring semester ahead three days and give the time to the fall semester?

When I look at the calendar for 1960-1961 I can hear the screams of anguish. For instance we would have to register (three days shot right there!) Monday, February 6 to Wednesday the 9, etc. This would cause a pile of work but it could be done.

This is just the suggestion of a student, but I respectfully submit it. If some of the politicians would use their heads for something more than a hat rack, we would not have to lose any vacation time.

Why not start the fall semester a week early on Sept. 4? After all the second 6 weeks session ends Sept. 2! Oh, well—it might rush the administration, Heaven, forbid!

—Fred B. Shaffer, Jr., '60

Bourov, Whitney To Talk on Peace

Nikolai Bourov, first secretary of the Soviet delegation to the United Nations, and Norman Whitney, of the American Friends Service Committee will speak at 8 tonight in 121 Sparks on "My Personal Hopes and My Nation's Plans for Peace."

Bourov is in charge of public relations for the Soviet delegation and Whitney is national secretary for peace education for the Friends committee, which arranged the lecture.

Gazette

TODAY

AIA Student Chapter, 7 p.m., 102 Sackett
AIM Board of Governors, 7 p.m., 203 HUB
ASAE, 7 p.m., 206 Ag. Eng.
Bus. Ad. Student Council, 4:15 p.m., HUB main lounge
BX Interviews, 2 p.m.-4:45 p.m., 212, 213 HUB
Camera Club, 7:30 p.m., 216 HUB
CBA, 3:15 p.m., HUB Assembly Hall
Chess Club, 7 p.m., HUB Cardroom
Christian Fellowship, 12:45 p.m., 218 HUB
Class Day, 8 p.m., 217 HUB
Emerson Society, 6:30 p.m., 218 HUB
Faculty Women's Luncheon, 12:50 p.m., HUB ballroom
Forestry Convocation, 11 a.m., 121 Sparks
Grad Students, 7:30 p.m., 214 HUB
Lecture, Nikolai Bourov, 8 p.m., 121 Sparks
Phi Epsilon Phi, 5:30 p.m., 215 HUB
Senior Class Day Committee, 6 p.m., 217 HUB
Senior Class Day Participants, 6:30 p.m., 217 HUB
Sports Car Club, 7 p.m., 212 HUB
Tennis Club, business meeting, 6:30 p.m., 3 White
University Ballet, 8 p.m., Little Theatre

Women's Debate Team Wins in NYU Tourney

Four members of the Women's Debate team took part in the New York University Debate Tournament.

Those speaking for the affirmative were Luene Jochem and Joan Kemp; Sheila Cohen and Mary Ann Ganter spoke for the negative. The affirmative team won four out of four debates; the negative team won three out of four debates.

Joan Kemp placed first in after-dinner speaking and was awarded a gavel.

Thirty schools attended the tournament.

World At A Glance

State Senate South Korea Airs Capital Relaxes Curfew Punishment On Capital City

HARRISBURG (AP) — Pennsylvania Senate leaders yesterday assigned a high priority to a special legislative study on whether to abolish capital punishment in the state.

Sen. Charles R. Weiner, Democratic floor leader, and his Republican counterpart, James S. Berger Potter, said they expected the matter to come up for action in the 1961 Legislature which convenes in January.

Senate and House resolutions adopted by the 1959 Legislature authorized the study by the Joint State Government Commission, the Assembly's research arm.

Weiner, a Philadelphia lawmaker, was one of the sponsors of the Senate resolution which called for a study to determine the effect of capital punishment on society and the advisability of it being abolished in Pennsylvania.

Berger declined to state his personal feelings about capital punishment but agreed the commission should study the matter and report to the next Legislature.

Fire Claims Four, Mother-Sister Safe

NU MINE, Pa. (AP) — A raging fire took the lives of four children late Monday night in this small Armstrong County mining town. Their mother and a sister escaped.

The two-story frame house "flared up in a puff," one neighbor said. Two nearby homes were scorched by the flames, but the occupants fled unhurt.

Fire Chief Charles Moore said grease from a french fryer apparently caused the explosion.

Malenkov Shifted Again

MOSCOW (AP) — Former Premier Georgi Malenkov has been shifted from his job of running the Kamenogorsk hydroelectric plant on the Siberian-Kazhak border, usually reliable sources said Tuesday.

Letters

Senior Objects to 'Agitators'

TO THE EDITOR: Something that has been a thorn in all those people's sides who have had any contact with student government has been the constant agitation by a group of people against Lion's Paw.

No one can object if these people say that the basic concept of Lion's Paw's very existence and presence is wrong. I don't concur, but I respect this group's right to oppose Lion's Paw on this basis.

However, I am sure that these are not the grounds on which they lay their claims against Lion's Paw. They hang their arguments on a buffer for the purpose of debate. This supplies them with a handy logic so they can convince themselves and others of the validity of their claims.

The recent Lion's Paw initiation is case in point. Running around in cars, carrying binocu-

lars, brandishing cameras, hiding in bushes, and engaging in other gradeschool harassments indicate their true motives.

This is merely the desire to satiate themselves by seeing secrets for the sake of seeing secrets. It could be no other: it certainly has no argumentative basis in an attack using claims of "control" and "influence." The immaturity and the lack of purpose is theirs.

This is the caliber of person who places in question the integrity and reputation of student leaders who have proven themselves capable to their contemporaries at Penn State.

—Frank Pearson, '60

Ike Asks Congress To Stop Politicking

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Eisenhower appealed to the Democratic-controlled Congress yesterday to pass up politicking and get down to legislating for all America in these closing months of the election year session.

"Too great a preoccupation with events of an election year could seriously impede constructive effort," Eisenhower said in a special message.

"We should jointly resolve that the shortness of time and political rivalries will not be allowed to prevent us from serving the American people effectively."

Democrats on Capitol Hill greeted the above-politics tone of Eisenhower's message with who-does-he-think-he's-kidding skepticism.

"This speech—it's called a message but I call it a speech—seems to be the Republican platform," House Speaker Sam Rayburn (D-Tex.), said.

Kangaroo Meat Sold

HARRISBURG (AP)—Thousands of pounds of kangaroo meat have been sold for human consumption in Pennsylvania, the Justice and Agriculture departments reported Tuesday.

Patrol Action Protested

TO THE EDITOR: As one of the participants in the protest-picketing of the Lion's Paw office on Sunday night, I felt that some members of the administration were pretty partial to Lion's Paw. But I didn't expect that even the Campus Police might be involved.

While we were picketing the office, we were approached by a campus cop who had been sent over after Lion's Paw called the Campus Patrol office. He ordered us out and told us that nobody was allowed in Old Main after 5 p.m. unless they had a key.

Yet I went up to the second-

floor lounge of Old Main last night to study, and no one bothered me. I even asked a janitor how late I could stay, and was told that as far as he knew the building was always open to the public until midnight.

This makes me wonder: Is it the Campus Police's job to "protect" Lion's Paw against some peaceful pickets, or is it their job to be impartial in their maintenance of law and order? Just how powerful is Lion's Paw anyway? Just who is trying to run this campus?

—Bruce Harp, '63