

Greatest Challenge Is Academic

Today a slumbering giant has been awakened by streams of little people.

The mastery of the giant is a 3-pronged challenge which must be met by the incoming freshmen, the little people.

The first and largest challenge facing freshmen is academic. Too often, when we hear a discussion about college life, we listen to one line about academic pursuits and 101 about social life and activities.

That one line usually goes, "Of course studies are important but . . ." The next lines begin with ". . . you must have activities, you must be a well rounded person, you must adjust." Adjustment is important but to place all the emphasis on it is missing the main point of college life.

Freshmen will not be here long before they discover that "excessive" studying leads to "the grind" appellation and students with decent averages and who never open a book are deified.

Many students will find a lot of easy courses, others many hard ones. The former group will have to do a little digging to even find the first challenge, but it is there.

The challenge lies in honors programs and those courses labeled "terrible," or it lies in

work beyond the supervision of any course or professor.

The second prong of the challenge can best be described by the overworked term, adjustment—adjustment to college life. Physically, Penn State is a big place for those who come from small towns. Freshmen may have to consciously attempt to meet people outside their immediate dormitory area.

The supervision is different. No one is around to force freshmen to open their books. The activities are different. Some may have to learn new skills. In short, adjustment is a matter of growing up.

The third challenge falls on the class as a whole. The challenge is that of reorganizing student activities as the University gradually moves to full operation the year round. It is up to today's freshmen to make community living, the name applied to the plan of integrating men and women in the same residence areas, a successful program.

Last spring, many students started discussing the possibility of reorganizing the Student Government Association on a community living basis, including in it the Women's Student Government Association and other organizations.

The responsibility of building an entirely new system may fall on the freshman class.

Collegian's Role

The Daily Collegian, an uncensored student newspaper, which believes that the free press is a vital component of a free society, strives to serve its society—the University community—by reporting in an accurate and unbiased manner, news they have a right to know and news that affects them as students and citizens.

Collegian is not a publicity organ but makes a sincere effort to carry news most significant to its readers.

Collegian also feels it has not only the right but the responsibility to make editorial comment on issues affecting the student public. In its editorial columns it goes further than just reporting news and attempts to guide student opinion.

It does not take sides, always supporting or attacking specific personalities or policies, but considers each action of individuals or phase of policy separately on its merit as seen by the Board of Editors.

Collegian does not try to make enemies; nor will it subterfuge the news or freedom of the press to avoid it. People by nature wish to know the truth only so long as it does not make them uncomfortable. When it distresses them they oft-times refuse to accept it as truth.

Through reporting, interpretation and constructive criticism the Collegian follows its motto: "For a Better Penn State."

The Daily Collegian Enters 56th Year

Entering into its 56th year of operation, The Daily Collegian can make this statement—"56 years old, 56 years free."

The Collegian is one of this country's few student-operated college newspapers which is still free from censorship and day-to-day supervision.

It is operated by two staffs: editorial, headed by John Black, and business, headed by Chester Lucido. They are responsible to Collegian Inc., their publishing body, composed of six students (of whom Black and Lucido are two) and six faculty and administrative members.

Newspaper policy and the paper's day-to-day operation is determined by the Board of Editors of the Editorial Staff.

The other three editorial boards, Board of Advanced Reporters, Board of Intermediate Reporters, and Cub Reporters, are responsible for gathering and writing the news and features which appear in the paper daily.

Advanced and intermediate reporters cover assigned beats and take general reporting assignments. Advanced reporters also assist with the editing jobs in the daily operation.

Cub reporters aid in writing

stories and headlines while they attend classes taught by members of the editorial board.

The business staff consists of three departments, advertising, promotion and circulation, which also use the board system. Local and national advertising is handled by the ad staff while the promotion staff handles Collegian publicity.

Collegian is published Tuesday through Saturday and is usually eight or twelve pages long.

It will issue its first call for candidates during the second week of classes. This is the first of two formal calls for candidates made each year. The second will be made at the beginning of the spring semester.

However, students may join the staff by reporting to the Collegian offices around 6 p.m. weekdays. Staffers need not be journalism students.

A Student-Operated Newspaper
55 Years of Editorial Freedom

The Daily Collegian

Successor to The Free Lance, est. 1837

Published Tuesday through Saturday morning during the University year. The Daily Collegian is a student-operated newspaper. Entered as second-class matter July 5, 1931 at the State College, Pa. Post Office under the act of March 3, 1879.

Mail Subscription Price: \$3.00 per semester — \$5.00 per year.

8 o'clock fog

Frosh Become Encyclopedias, Billboards, During Customs

by Elaine Miele

In furthering the traditions of Penn State: Do you know where the Telephone Building is? Can you tell the legend of the Obelisk or the Nittany Lion statue?

These and other questions will make YOU—the frosh—fair game for upperclassmen when customs begins on the first day of class.

The customs period is probably the first of many traditions that Penn State students become acquainted with in their 4-year pursuit of academic (and other kinds) of learning.

Customs lasts for an indefinite length of time but it is said that freshmen classes with lots of spirit (willing spirit, that is) "suffer" through customs for a shorter period.

Most freshmen get an education (and if you are a coed) a good number of dates during customs. Penn State men will most likely ask you for a date, girls, after they ask you the length of Pollock Rd.

There are other advantages to customs. The purpose of wearing dinks is to shield your tender grey matter from the sun so that it can be presented unharmed to the profs. Also, your name cards will hide any spots from HUB ice cream which may have dripped on your blouse or shirt.

Need more encouragement? Well, it might be hoped that when frosh struggle all the way up to the library to read what is on the manhole cover in front of it, they might rub off a little knowledge from that knowledgeable building.

Customs is not all a hazard, though. Frosh should be pleased at all the attention paid to them for this period and besides, it does not last forever.

The decision of ending customs is up to a ruling body known as the Freshmen Customs Board. These are people who don't actually have a grudge against the world—they just act that way. They will become the freshmen's lords and masters and will deal severely with any violators of the code.

Penalties usually consist of a bigger sign to wear—and therefore, more notice from upperclassmen. If some do not notice you, never fear! Students are used to stranger sights on this campus than someone trying to look proper with a 3-ft. sign around his neck.

By the way, have fun. The curtain is about to go up and the whole campus is waiting for your debut.

small talk

Basic Language Guide For Student-Watchers

by Nicki Wolford

During my three odd years at this particular institution of higher (or lower depending on which path you take) learning, I have acquired the habit of student watching—student watching being categorically different from professor or administrator watching and much more fun.

Unless one divides the students into types, student watching can be a confusing hobby. A rough classification would include the studious student, the party student, the cynical student, the arty student, the general student and THE BIG MAN ON CAMPUS who tries to be everything at once.

This last type can be observed most often because he makes the most noise. Novice student watchers should, therefore, begin with this type. But before taking up the habits and customs of these students, every beginner should consider the common expressions they use.

The most frequent expression heard is SGA. Technically this expression means Student Government Association, an organization whose chief function is to protect you against the rules and regulations of big, bad, black administrators. Actually it is the name for a group of people who assemble weekly in 203 HUB and yell (alternately and sometimes in groups) "question" or "point of order."

Sometimes—just for a change—one member, makes a motion. Then immediately an amendment to the motion is made because the motion maker number one got his instructions confused. Then

the opposing group, in a sterling attempt to defeat the motion in confusion makes an amendment to the amendment.

Community Living is another favorite expression. This is a plan cleverly devised to reduce the power of the Pattee Library as a dating bureau.

Froth is a monthly magazine designed for freshmen. The rest of us read all its jokes last year and the year before and the year before . . .

Lion's Paw or "LP" is the highest and most powerful organization on campus, some people say. The BMOC Society is unevenly split over this issue—most being pro-"LP". Anyway, it is a group of senior men who got tired of wearing their fraternity pins. They inhabit Nittany Mountain (at the oddest hours) and 419 Old Main.

John Brandt is the Campus party clique chairman and infamous man about campus—with or without the beard. He is anti-"LP" and, therefore, is infamous.

Dr. Dorothy J. Lipp is the Dean who "Dates and Dances." Quote was taken from the Philadelphia Inquirer.

Frank J. Simes is the dean of men who is not described by newspapers.

