

Editorial Opinion

Housing Discrimination Condoned

While colleges and universities across the nation are taking steps to eliminate procedures in off-campus housing which discriminate against Negro or international students, Penn State sits idly by and allows the condition to exist in a manner quite contrary to the spirit of a true University.

Hiding behind a facade of "non-approval," the University administration says it cannot place any stipulations upon the free listings it provides on the housing list in Old Main as a service for landlords. The University says to do so would be, in effect, to "approve" housing and this is something that it cannot legally do.

But if placing restrictions upon the type of listings constitutes "approval," then refusing to take steps to eliminate discrimination in off-campus housing is, in effect, condoning its existence.

The University claims the housing list it maintains is a service to students.

There is no doubt that it is a service to landlords to have their rooms and apartments advertised free of charge right outside the Dean of Men's office. But whether or not it is a service to students to supply them with information that may lead to embarrassment and affronts to human integrity, if they are refused housing because of the color of their skin, is certainly questionable.

With smug self-righteousness, an attempt is sometimes made to coyly ascertain whether a landlord would accept Negro or international students and, if so, such a notation is made on the listing.

A survey of the list last night showed

that exactly one of the several hundred listings had the word "Negro" on it.

But this again is an example of the University actually condoning discrimination and furthering the objectives of those who would practice it.

The University has already discarded procedures in which race had an effect on dormitory rooming assignments.

Why such a dichotomy in policy?

Maintaining the list could, of a certainty, be a notable service to the students.

It would be so simple to ask a landlord, who called in requesting a listing, whether or not he would accept Negro or international students. If he said no, he should be told his listing could not be accepted. This in no way constitutes approval or disapproval of the facility.

Likewise, if Negro or international students are brushed off by any landlord who has tried to evade the issue to gain a listing and then tells them the room has just been filled, should report this fact to the Dean of Men's office. The listing should immediately be removed from the board, for if the room were filled there would certainly be no reason for the listing to remain.

The Dean of Men's office merely maintains the list. Responsibility for it lies with higher echelons.

It is time the University came out from behind its poor mask, and recognized and acknowledged its responsibility to join, in the true University spirit, colleges across the country which have tried to eliminate the scourge of discrimination.

Block 'S' Needs Frosh Support

The fate of the Block 'S' Club's new flash card section will depend on the group's performance at the first football game Saturday. If they are good, they are on their way to becoming a fixed tradition; if they are bad, the whole project might be dropped.

It is easy to give a good show if the section members all know what they are doing. But our flash card section is still not complete, and has been hastily organized.

The routine the group will use was just set up last night and practice will not be held until Saturday morning. As of now, the group has only 500 members and 704 members are needed to fill up the seats allotted in Beaver Stadium.

The present senior class had voted last spring to give up 704 seats in the senior and graduate student section of the stadium to the flash card section.

Richard A. McDowell, advisor to the group had urged them to become more organized and wait until the Homecoming game in October to present the first show. This would have allowed the seniors and

graduate students to use the seats at the first game.

However, the group was enthusiastic and decided to put on a show Saturday.

Many of the flash card section members are freshmen, having been newly recruited. It is not fair to ask seniors and graduate students to give up their seats to freshmen if the seats are not being used for a worthwhile purpose. After all, the seniors had to wait four years to get the seats.

Thus, the fate of the flash card section is primarily up to you the freshmen. Over 200 members must be found and the routine must be learned well enough so that a good show will be presented.

We saw your enthusiasm Sunday when many of you began wearing your dinks then instead of waiting for customs week. We heard your school spirit expressed Monday by your singing and cheering at Recreation Hall and Tuesday as groups of you roamed the campus.

It is up to you to take that spirit and enthusiasm and put it to work. For you have been given the opportunity to start your career at the University by creating a tradition that will continue many years after you graduate.

Leave Something Behind

A little blue card will be the means by which registering students can contribute to their class gift during the next three days.

The present senior class is the last class to receive any supporting University funds to help pay for the gift.

This means that every class from now

on will have to contribute the entire amount which will go for the gift.

Let's not leave our Alma Mater without expressing our gratitude. There is surely no student who does not "take" part of Penn State away with him when he graduates.

Let us leave a little behind, also.

Candid

Counselor's Job Produces Rewards

By Rick Bower

To the majority of students the job of being an orientation counselor seems to be all work and no enjoyment. However, those who have served as a counselor know there are certain rewards that never can be replaced.

The daily incidents that happen are often reward enough in themselves. I'm not referring just to the satisfaction of seeing your counselees become well adjusted and go on to take their place in the University, but also of the little things—the funny incidents that occur to make an Orientation Week a little more hectic, a little funnier and a little more enjoyable.

Many of these are typical of human nature. Last Sunday I was assigned to an information post for the area of the new Pollock residence halls. After standing in the rain for two hours, I was in no mood to argue with tired and irate parents.

One harried father, after depositing all his daughter's belongings on the loading platform of Pollock 3, mopped his brow and muttered, "After driving around the University for two hours, I sure am glad I finally found Hoyt Hall."

Most of the parents were in fairly good spirits in spite of the inconveniences of parking and rain. Take for example, the lady who drove around Simmons and McElwain at least 10 times looking for a place to park. Each time we would offer encouragement and await her return. Finally we found her a parking place and held it for her. She was so grateful she offered to leave her car open for us to get out of the rain and to go get coffee for us.

The look on a mother's face

when she is told her daughter has been assigned to a linen closet or a lounge is never lost in the mind of a counselor.

It brought back old memories of three years ago to see "gung ho" freshmen running around in their dinks Sunday. Actually they were probably drier than the hatless hatmen, still waiting for their hats to arrive.

But the freshmen and their parents aren't the only ones who get confused. It happens to the counselors too. On the night of the campus tour, one of the women counselors had to ask which building was Osmond before she could point it out to her group.

One of the most popular spots on the tour of campus was the Obelisk. Men learned for the first time the favorite legend concerning it. Two illustrious female Collegian senior boarders had the misfortune to pass by just as the legend was being explained to one group. Their faces turned red at the trail of laughter that followed them.

Although not too many questions were asked on the tour, the interest among the women students soared 100 per cent when the fraternity section of campus was reached. Could it be that they have had advance warning about Penn State weekends?

And so the week goes on. More new experiences still lie ahead for the freshmen and more new worries for the counselors. The ritual of registration, seemingly impossible for those who are going through it for the first time, begins today and continues for three happy fun-filled days. The only thing left to say is have fun while the freedom lasts for next week the work begins (for some)!



BOWER

Orientation Gazette

TODAY

Freshman Customs Board Meeting, 4 p.m., 217 HUB
College Meetings, 7:45 p.m.
WRA Program, new women students, 6:45 p.m., Schwab
Faculty Talks, 10:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m., 3:30 p.m., HUB Assembly Hall

TOMORROW

Pep Rally, new students, 6:45 p.m., campus in front of Old Main
Open Houses in Fraternities, transfer men and women, 8 p.m.
AIM, Freshmen (A to Lam) 8:45 p.m., (Lan to Z) 7:45 p.m., Schwab
Interfraternity Council Meeting, Freshmen (A to Lam) 7:45 p.m., (Lan to Z) 8:45 p.m., 121 Sparks
Faculty Talks, 10:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m., 3:30 p.m., HUB Assembly Hall

FRIDAY

Open House, new women students, 7 p.m., White Hall
Penn State History & Traditions, new students, 7:30 p.m., Schwab
Penn State Bible Fellowship, all interested students, 7:30 p.m., 111 Boucke
Sabbath Eve Services, Jewish students, 8 p.m., Hillel Foundation, 224 Locust Lane
Surprise Party, Methodist students, 8 p.m., Wesley Foundation, 238 E. College Ave.
Dink Debut, all freshmen, 8:30 p.m., Skating Pavilion
Transfer Dance, all transfers, 8:30 p.m., HUB ballroom
Outdoor Movie, new students, 9 p.m., back of HUB
Faculty Talks, 10:30 a.m., 1:30, 3:30 p.m., HUB assembly hall

Greeks to Hold Open Houses For Transfers

Eighteen fraternities will hold open houses for all new transfer students from 8 to 9:30 p.m. tomorrow.

Transfer men and women will be divided into groups which will visit three houses for one half hour each.

Five Panhellenic Council members will serve as hostesses at each house. Refreshments and entertainment will be provided by each fraternity.

A dance sponsored by the IFC-Panhellenic Council will be held for all transfer students from 8:30 to 11 p.m. Friday in the Hetzel Union ballroom.

Olin Butt and the Keystoneaires will furnish the music for dancing.

Admission to the dance is by ticket which may be obtained from the orientation counselors.

A Student-Operated Newspaper
56 Years of Editorial Freedom

The Daily Collegian

Successor to The Free Lance, est. 1887

Published Tuesday through Saturday morning during the University year. The Daily Collegian is a student-operated newspaper. Entered as second-class matter July 5, 1934 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.

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and The Intercollegiate Press

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