

Editorial Opinion

Frustrated Grads

While the University is considering many changes that will accompany the switch in the academic calendar, the plight of some of its graduate assistants should be known.

Graduate assistants who are also sports fans are posed with a particularly perplexing dilemma.

It would be more profitable for them to accept only a quarter-time assistantship, so that they can qualify as regular students and gain free admission to athletic events, than to accept a half-time assistantship or more and have to pay the full fare at all contests.

The factors that cause the dilemma are somewhat complicated.

Two sets of standards apply.

A graduate student on a quarter-time assistantship can carry 12 credits in addition to his job. A graduate student on a half-time assistantship is prohibited by University regulations from carrying that many credits.

Any student, graduate or undergraduate, must carry at least 12 credits to be considered a "full-time" student. Anyone with less credits is designated a "special" student.

And this is the standard which determines the extent of a student's athletic privileges.

"Full-time" students are admitted to all athletic contests by presenting their matriculation card. "Special" students must pay the same admission as an outsider.

These same stipulations also apply for tickets to Artists' and Lecture Series.

Secondly, a married student can purchase a card for his wife which entitles her to admission to sporting events at a reduced rate. Married graduate assistants, who are limited to less than 12 credits, do not even get this privilege.

If a graduate assistant is interested in such things as sports and concerts, it is financially advantageous for him to accept only a quarter-time assistantship rather than a half-time assistantship. The difference in salary will not offset the expense of athletic contests and concerts throughout the year.

Obviously rules must be made to govern these privileges, but the rules should make provisions for the graduates who are working for the University at the same time as they continue their schooling.

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56 Years of Editorial Freedom

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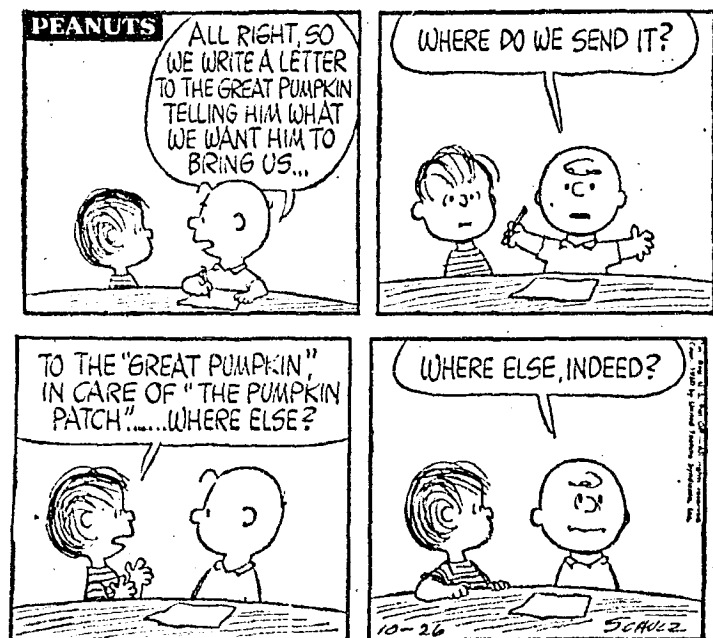
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Letters

Junior Seeks Support For SGA Bill

TO THE EDITOR: This letter is, primarily, one of commendation. There are several factions on campus which, in the past several weeks, have taken interest in problems other than those of the dubious magnitude of cheer-writing and other such problems of equal intensity.

There are now three groups, more or less formally organized, to investigate, combat, and possibly eradicate any evidences of discrimination in the State College area. They are, in order of time in existence, Direct Action for Racial Equality, The Burgess' Committee of State College Residents, and the SGA Inter-Racial Problems Committee.

All three of these groups have been meeting regularly during the past month and, I feel, there are some commendable results.

The SGA Inter-Racial Problems Committee has drafted a bill which will — if passed by the SGA Assembly this Thursday evening — give SGA the control and operation of the presently openly discriminatory housing list that is maintained for off-campus students by the dean of men's office. Although, at first glance, this may seem like only a switch in who is doing the physical maintenance of the list, it is actually much more than that.

For, according to the resolution that is now in the hands of the SGA rules committee, this switch would undertake to provide a list that was completely devoid of any discriminatory landlords.

I, as an active member of DARE, have been told that, in order to assure the passage of this bill in the SGA assembly, it would be most advantageous to have a student show of (opinionated) force at the SGA meeting this Thursday.

I have already requested those who attended the DARE meeting on Sunday afternoon to do this — and I would like to issue this request to that portion of the student body which might be interested in such items as Human Equality to be present at that meeting to stand forth and be counted if necessary.

May I again, in closing this letter, repeat my happy feeling of what is, frankly, surprise that SGA is actually doing something and doing it quickly. If this body is taking the initiative, the least the rest of us can do is remove our rumps from the snug seat of apathy and state feelings and opinions which will remove the label of the "silent generation" from all of us.

Letter cut
—Stephen R. Blum, '62

Interpreting

Leaks on Surveys Of U. S. Prestige

By J. M. ROBERTS

Associated Press News Analyst

So many leaks have occurred about the surveys of American prestige abroad that the United States will now be required to publish them just to keep people from thinking they are worse than they are.

Judging from unofficial reports, the last one doesn't make very good propaganda. A general idea in the free world that the United States is militarily inferior to the Soviet Union is dangerous whether it is correct or not.



ROBERTS

It causes other nations to start reflecting on the value of their alliances, and if it persists into some time of great crisis, could produce defections.

There was little doubt that American political prestige had dropped in the weeks immediately after U2. There has been a general feeling, however, that it had gone up again since the convening of the United Nations General Assembly.

One thing people would like

to know is whether the previous surveys show ups and downs, and whether the foreign concept of American military power has shown any tendency to go up and down along with political prestige.

They would also like to know more of the basis for the reports. There is, for instance, general agreement that the Soviet Union is ahead of the United States in rocket development for space probes because her rockets have greater thrust. But from a strictly military standpoint, relative strength is not enhanced by range beyond what is needed. Have such points been kept clear by the surveyors?

Did the surveyors ask merely about the United States, or was there a tabulation, too, of the effectiveness of her mutual aid program, whereby billions of dollars of her own

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Letters

Banner Destruction Decried

TO THE EDITOR: As everyone on campus knows by this time, Thespians are putting on their fall musical comedy "The Big One," on Oct. 27, 28, 29—Junior Prom Weekend in Schwab Auditorium.

One of the best ways known to disseminate this information over a campus so large as ours is by means of a banner placed across the mall.

The physical plant people strung the Big One across the mall at 12 noon on Friday. Many students and faculty noticed it and remarked about it. Needless to say, its original design was a 'show stopper' and a conversation piece.

At 2 a.m. Saturday morning, I got a phone call from Ann Leon one of my crew; the girl who had conceived the idea and who lead the building of the Big One. She said vandals had torn off the bottom half of the Big One leaving nothing but the bare supportive boards.

Now my question is simply this: What kind of warped individuals would deliberately desecrate a publicly gimmick which had done nothing to harm them? What provoked an

attack on a defenseless 'Big One'?

Certainly the banner is novel, but that's no reason to deface it. Have these malicious persons no consideration for the time and effort that went into the construction of the Big One? Is this their idea of a Friday evening of fun?

I am not sure whether the Big One was damaged by University students or State College boys. I sincerely hope it wasn't any of our population.

It is really a shame that a project which required so much time and effort as did the construction of this advertisement must be ruined by a few individuals who have a distorted sense of fun.

The missing part of the One states the place and dates of the show. We sincerely hope that those who destroyed the BIG ONE will at least heed the message it contained, and buy a ticket to see the Thespian production of 'THE BIG ONE.' The outcome may prove to be very rewarding for the desecrators.

Letter Cut
—Judith R. Gordon, '61
Thespian Publicity
Chairman

Jr. Speaks on School Spirit

TO THE EDITOR: I have read the two letters recently published in the Collegian concerning this matter of school spirit, and I agree for the most part with Mr. Cordover as to the farcicalness of most of what is labeled "school spirit" at Penn State.

Like Mr. Cordover, I am quietly proud of my school. Penn State is a great school with proud traditions. It is a top school in many curriculums.

The opportunities outside of the classroom, such as the Artist Series and various lecture series, gives the student a chance to develop a cultural as well as an academic background. It is things such as these of which the student should be rightfully proud.

We should also be proud of our athletic teams, to be sure, but looking over page four of Tuesday's Collegian, I see two pieces concerning the lack of enthusiasm displayed for a Penn State team returning from a great effort at Syracuse. What has happened to the old idea "It's not whether you win or lose, it's how you play the game."

Where were the RAH, RAH

fun-loving boys last year when a small band of Pitt men defaced the Lion on a Sunday night? Maybe the guys from Pitt realized that Penn State only has "school spirit" on Friday nights for "breaks in the routine." Do students at the schools, without football go automatically stir crazy?

Fordham and the University of Chicago have managed to get along without football for years.

If real, meaningful school spirit is to exist at Penn State, it must be constant. It must be backed up by the willingness of students to go a little out of their way once in awhile, rather than rowdies looking for a little escape.

Only three people made an attempt to guard the Lion that Sunday night. They knew for a fact that Pitt guys were coming up and spread the word as best they could, but to no avail. When the guards took a short break, the Pitt painters struck, because there was no one to take over the guard duty.

For these reasons, I throw my lot with Mr. Cordover.

—John Scorch Reimer, '62

Gazette

- TODAY
Arnold Air Society, 7 p.m., 217 HUB
AIM, 8 p.m., 203 HUB
American Meteorology Society, 7 p.m., 212 HUB
AWS, 6:30 p.m., 203 HUB
Camera Club, 8 p.m., 214-215 HUB
Chem-Phys Student Council, 6:45 p.m., 218 HUB
Chess Club, 7 p.m., HUB cardroom
Eng and Arch Student Council, 6:15 p.m., 219 HUB
Freshman Class Advisory Board, 6:45 p.m., 216 HUB
Finance Club, 8:30 p.m., 216 HUB
IV Christian Fellowship, 12:45 p.m., 318 HUB
Junior Class Advisory Board, 8:30 p.m., 217-218 HUB
Kappa Phi, 7 p.m., Wesley Foundation
Leadership Training, 7 p.m., 119 Osmond
Mock Elections Committee, 7 p.m., 214-215 HUB
Newman Club, 8 a.m.-5 p.m., ground floor HUB
Newman Club Football Game, Newman Club vs. Waring Chargers, 8:30 p.m., golf course, field 3
Off-Campus Tribunal, 8 p.m., Board Room, Old Main
Sonator Hugh Scott, 12:30 p.m., HUB ballroom
Sigma Theta Epsilon, 7 p.m., Wesley Foundation
U.N. Display, HUB ground floor lobby
Women's Chorus, 6:30 p.m., HUB assembly room
Young Democrats, 8 a.m.-5 p.m., HUB ground floor
Young Republicans, 11 a.m., HUB ballroom
Young Republicans, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., HUB ground floor