

Editorial Opinion

A Gentlemen's Agreement

The new University policy on class attendance is a type of gentlemen's agreement between those Senate members who think class attendance rules are unimportant or restricting and those who believe this place is still the Farmer's High School.

The general policy statement is more vague than the old K-rules; but it does leave those instructors who feel they must command attendance some rule to fall back on.

On the other hand the policy does not demand that role be taken by holding instructors responsible for the whereabouts of students as did the old K-rules. The illogical hypothesis that a checked class attendance might prevent "unfortunate incidents" has been discarded.

The policy, in part, says that "instructors shall provide, within reason, opportunity to make-up work for students who miss class for regularly scheduled University-approved activities."

Most instructors are very reasonable about make-up work and we hope the University won't have to stipulate that professors have to provide this make-up work.

Any instructor who feels providing this make-up opportunity is an imposition will probably allow this feeling to influence his grading anyway.

This new policy again sanctions the use of class attendance records in grading. This sanction is high schoolish and unfair.

There are students who do not have to attend every class in order to pass it or even in order to get an "A." Some may do more impressive work than the student who comes to class every time and sits in the front row. This student should not get the same grade as his class cutting but brighter friends just by virtue of his presence in the classroom.

We know that some instructors will automatically mark a student down for cutting a class but we do not think the University should sanction it.

The Senate would have had a better attendance policy (since it feels it must have one) and saved space in the rule book if it had followed Dr. Monroe Newman's suggestion and simply said, "It is the policy of the Pennsylvania State University that class attendance by students be encouraged and that all instructors organize and conduct their courses with this policy in mind."

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Snowed
Weather May Decide Election

by joel myers

Neither Vice President Richard M. Nixon nor John F. Kennedy is a meteorologist and to our knowledge neither of the Presidential candidates is very familiar with the science of weather forecasting.

And yet, whether these candidates realize it or not, the outcome of Tuesday's presidential election could hinge on the nation's weather pattern as it has many times in the past.

It is a well established fact that the proportion of eligible voters that go to the polls is closely correlated with the weather conditions that exist in that particular region on election day.

Inclement weather such as snow, sleet and rain as well as cold temperatures tends to reduce the number of persons who cast their ballots. On the other hand, sunny skies and mild readings cause a larger than normal vote.

The effect of the weather on voter appearances at the polls is particularly pronounced in rural areas and farm country where polling places are often well scattered



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and far apart. In the cities a dense network of voting booths serves to reduce the effect of the weather on balloting.

If the election outcome in a specific state is close, one can see how the weather conditions in that state could determine the winner.

For instance, take the situation in many of the Northern states where the majority of city dwellers are Democrats while the majority of farmers and rural residents are Republicans or in the South where just the opposite distribution of party affiliation prevails. If it should rain or snow in one of these states on election day, the city residents would exert more influence on the result than they would if fair weather prevail.

The differential distribution

of precipitation in any particular state could also prove important and perhaps decisive. Take Pennsylvania as an example.

The cities of Philadelphia and Pittsburgh are centers of Democratic strength while the northern and central areas of the Commonwealth are overwhelmingly Republican.

If it were to rain in either the northern or southern portion of the state and not the other, the rainless area would exert a higher than normal influence on the election outcome.

Therefore, although many politicians will be looking for early voting trends based on economic, social, religious and political factors, the real barometer of Tuesday's election could be the barometer itself.

Gazette

- TODAY
AIM Dance, 9 p.m., HUB ballroom
American Society of Ag Engineers, 8 a.m.-noon, HUB assembly room
Newman Club reception for Maryland Newman Club, 3:30-5:30 p.m., memorial lounge, Eisenhower Chapel
- TOMORROW
Chess Club, 2 p.m., HUB cardroom
Chimes, 6:30 p.m., Alpha Chi Omega suite
Folk Song Club, 7:30 p.m., 217 HUB
Newman Club, 7 p.m., 212 HUB
Psychology Group, 6:30 p.m., 214 HUB
Theater Arts, 8 p.m., 212 HUB
University Christian Association Lecture, 4:15 p.m., Eisenhower Chapel
- MONDAY
Alpha Phi Omega, 2:12-2:13 HUB
Ag Economics, 3 p.m., 214-215-216 HUB
Botany Club, 7:30 p.m., 220 Buckhout Lab
Bridge Club, 7 p.m., HUB cardroom
English Club, 7:30 p.m., P I Lambda Phi
Faculty Luncheon Club, noon, dining room 'A' HUB
IFC, 7:30 p.m., HUB assembly room
Leonides, 6:45 p.m., 203 HUB
Newman Club vs. Stump Jumpers, 7:30 p.m. Field 2, Golf course

Slavic Group, 7 p.m., Hibbs-Stephens Rec room

Letters

ZBT Apology

TO THE EDITOR: On behalf of the brothers and pledges of Zeta Beta Tau, I wish to apologize to the campus for the ad that erroneously appeared in the Daily Collegian yesterday. The ad stated that the fraternity house would be open to the campus tonight.

This is incorrect. This is our Alumni Weekend, therefore we will be open only for our alumni and rushees.

—Neal Keitz, President

Letters

Sr. Discusses

Jr.'s Letter

On Walker

TO THE EDITOR: It was with mixed feelings of delight and little apprehension that I heard a junior asking, "Who is this Eric?" (Nov. 2). I say I was delighted because it is an enjoyable experience to realize that at least one person is concerned with this particular situation.

This interested letter writer wondered if Mr. Walker's main interest was in furthering his prestige as an educator. I say yes, it is his main interest! This obviously is what keeps him so terribly busy (of course, from time to time, this paper's foreign correspondent has a report to give us concerning his whereabouts).

His far into the future planning is not to be decried, not until he forgets the immediacy of countless administrative problems facing his secretaries right now in Old Main. Besides furthering his prestige among the nation's educators, he ought to devote some fraction of his time to cleaning up the chaotic refuse of a loosely strung administrative rosary here on campus.

Previous presidents of this grand, commodious university have gone on and left any number of unsolved administrative dilemmas, lost forever (they hoped) in the quagmire of Old Main's interdepartmental channels.

So Mr. Walker doesn't have to bother himself with the trivia of this colossus of PSU. His presidency is a ticket to bigger and better things.

All the administrative actions that have become and will become hopelessly self-entangled are thrown up to the potentates such as Mr. Diem, Mr. Simes, Col. Bolduc—these flunkies and the others appear to be fighting out their combined mistakes (unsolved problems, if you like) while our great white father-educator flits from one mahogany panelled office to another seeking solutions to vague problems that Western society has yet to create.

—Rick Woltman '61

(Editor's Note: Col. Lucien Bolduc retired last year.

World at a Glance

Kasavubu Hits Nixon on Tour, UN Influence Jabs Kennedy

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y. (AP) —The United Nations disclosed yesterday a sharp protest from Congolese President Joseph Kasavubu, charging that U.N. officials are interfering in the internal affairs of his country to the advantage of deposed Premier Patrice Lumumba.

Kasavubu also accused Ghana and Guinea of trying to stir up anarchy in the young African republic by supporting Lumumba.

The charges were contained in hitherto secret communications from Kasavubu addressed to Ambassador Frederick H. Boland of Ireland, president of the U.N. General Assembly.

They were published here a day after Secretary-Hammarskjold issued a Congo report assailing the army regime of Col. Joseph Mobutu and charging Belgian nationals with trying to influence that regime against the United Nations.

CASPER, Wyo. (AP) — Vice President Richard M. Nixon accused Sen. John F. Kennedy yesterday of changing his position on several key issues—and declared: "We can't have a jumping Jack as president of the United States of America."

The Republican presidential candidate said his Democratic rival often makes a statement on an issue, then "switches his position as soon as he reads the polls."

Leveling verbal six-guns at his rival, Nixon flew from Fort Worth, Tex., to Casper for another campaign foray into the West.

Wyoming—only three electoral votes—is the 49th state Nixon has visited during the campaign. The vice president, who promised to campaign in all 50 states, plans to fulfill that pledge Sunday, flying from Los Angeles to Alaska.

Kennedy Requests Large Turnouts

EN ROUTE WITH KENNEDY (AP) — Sen. John F. Kennedy contended yesterday a "Democratic tide is rising" across the country and asked big campaign turnouts to keep up its momentum.

The Democratic presidential nominee exuded outward confidence as he carried his long, last weekend drive into Ohio and Illinois after major pitches — at Norfolk and Roanoke, Va. — aimed at wresting Virginia's 12 electoral votes from Vice President Richard M. Nixon.

"Virginia," he told an airport crowd at Roanoke, which police estimated at between 15,000 and 20,000, "cannot possibly give its votes to a man of the stripe of Richard M. Nixon."

Ike Accuses Jack Of Inflation Trend

CLEVELAND, Ohio (AP) — President Eisenhower criticized Sen. John F. Kennedy yesterday for preaching "the gospel of big government"—a course, he said, which "leads to deficit spending and runaway inflation."

Eisenhower carried his personal campaign for the election of Vice President Richard M. Nixon into two mighty industrial centers — Cleveland and Pittsburgh — where Kennedy is believed to have made important gains.

"In no more sure way can the economic strength of the Republic be destroyed than by inflation," he said, in Cleveland's public square.