

Editorial Opinion

The Time Is Now

The legislature yesterday received Gov. David L. Lawrence's first word on the long awaited report of his Committee on Education; but he gave no indication of complete acceptance of the report's 145 proposals.

The governor said he was "sure that none of us will necessarily agree with every word of the report" and that modification was possible.

However, he urged the legislature not to pigeonhole the committee's report and instead "translate ideas into a program." Thus the only tangible thing which his address indicates at this point is to insure action on the report at this legislative session or a special post session.

Dr. Robert A. Christie, the education committee's executive director, said bills on the committee's proposals will be ready by April 18. Nearly half of the proposals will require legislative action, the rest can be implemented by executive order.

With bills on the proposals being drawn up, the time to increase the flow of back-the-budget letters to legislators is now. Students' and parents' letters are needed to impress upon the legislature the need for an increased appropriation for Penn State.

The committee recommends that the University handle 35,000 students by 1970. The University has already announced its willingness to do this. This represents an average increase in enrollment of almost 2,000 students per year. We might remind the Legislature that the University cannot even take the extra 1200 students they had hoped to this year unless it grants the full \$23 million budget request.

Lawrence has not changed his original recommendation of \$17.1 million for the University. Letters directed to him should emphasize the need to change his recommendation after speaking out as strongly as he has for educational reform.

But tact is the keyword in letters. Letter writers must keep in mind the ultimate objective—to persuade the state officials of the need for voting the full appropriation for Penn State.

Sarcastic or nasty letters to the governor and the legislators will alienate them.

A simple direct appeal, which recounts the job the University has done, the need that exists for funds and points out that it would be illogical for them not to increase the University appropriation while facing evidence that its role must be one of constantly increasing importance, will probably have much more effect.

Discretion is the better part of valor and it is also the better way to get that favor. Granted, a University and its students should not have to beg for money; but unfortunately we do not live in a world of what ought to be, but what is.

An avalanche of letters just may avert a tuition increase.

The Daily Collegian

Successor to The Free Lance, est. 1887

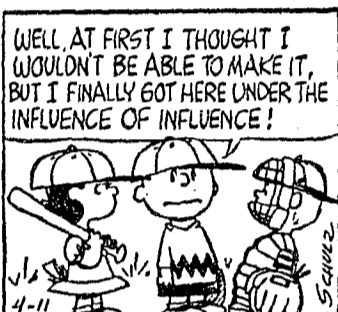
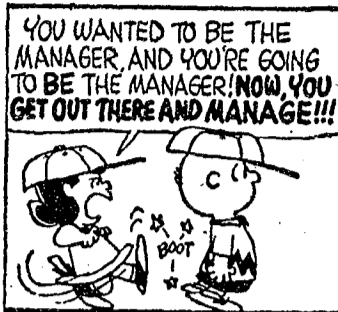
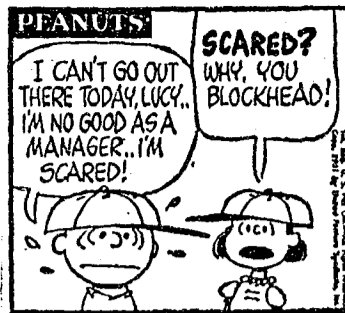
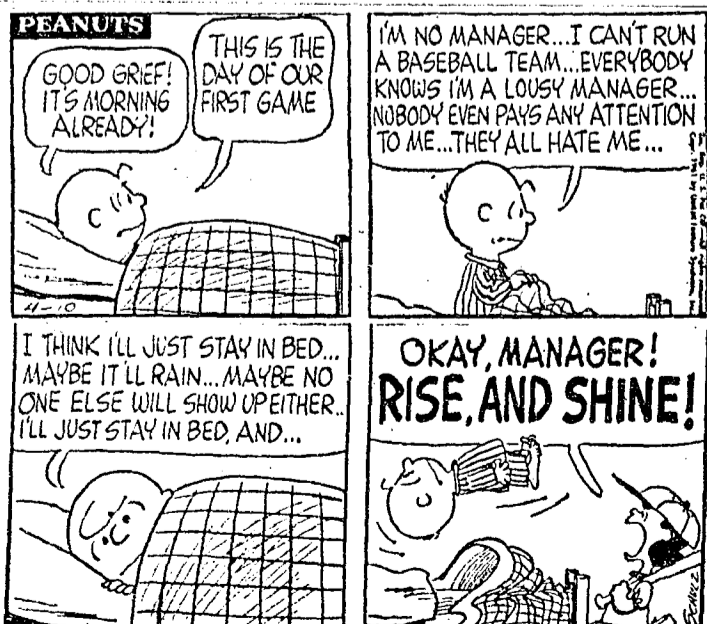
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Letters

Others Protest Patrol Action

TO THE EDITOR: We wish to praise the courage (?), fortitude (?), and dexterity (?), of our world famous, well-known and loved Campus Patrol.

Recently several of our coeds were "approached" by an unknown man. Warnings have been issued for coeds not to travel at night alone. At this great time of mortal danger to us coeds, what is our Campus Patrol doing?

Our Campus Patrol is disbanding fraternity men during their serenade — for example March 26, 1961, in the south courtyard of Atherton Hall. It makes one feel good to know that the Campus Patrol is on the job. We wish to express our deepest gratitude for their service.

- Margaret Spangler, '62
Patricia G. Koch, '62
Marilyn Miller, '62
Dorothy Kitko '61
June Komlos, '62
Catherine Sowa, '62

Interpreting

World's Criticism of S. Africa

By HENRI JONKER
JOHANNESBURG, South Africa (AP)—South African Prime Minister Hendrik Verwoerd's National party machine apparently is preparing this country's ruling whites for a major maneuver aimed at offsetting criticism of racial segregation policies.

There is an indication that the government hopes to break the wave of worldwide disapproval, not by giving in to U.N. demands to grant political rights to non-whites, but by opening full steam his master plan of developing separate black territories within South Africa.

Last week a surprising editorial in the Johannesburg

Letters

Fraternity-Sorority System

TO THE EDITOR: Mr. Williams' letter contains a note of inherent contradiction. I refer to the words "Negro and Jewish" fraternities. Isn't this like the kettle calling the pot black? Rather than deplore the existence of discriminatory clauses in fraternity constitutions we might as well strike at the root of the problem... fraternities-type organizations on a University campus.

One might argue that limitations on a fraternity charter or constitution destroys the Constitutional right of social freedom... freedom of association. This I feel is valid to a degree. However, does a University want organizations which limit freedom of association to a physical or ideological attribute beyond the control of the individual?

Should not a University attempt to promote broader educational opportunities and a freedom to associate with those elements of society from which an ordinary citizen is frequently shielded by social and status pressure?

I believe that fraternities and sororities inherently limit a student in pursuit of a social education in an institution where an atmosphere of intellectual achievement supposedly reposes. Student organizations ought to be based not strictly on supposed social compatibility but on mutual interests on an intellectual plane and hence cut across the false boundaries existing outside the University.

Here is a haven of retreat where students can flirt with

ideas of social justice, civil liberties, equality, and broad understandings of his fellow men without the fear of losing his social status in his community. Where else will he get this chance?

However, when the social pressures are set up rigidly under fraternity organization the ever-present status seeking compulsions will again close a student's mind to the opportunity of understanding those not exactly like himself.

I cite but one specific example to emphasize the weaknesses of many Universities which choose to center social structure around fraternities or sororities. A girl moves into a dormitory to find she has a Negro girl as a roommate. Rather than make use of this excellent opportunity to get to know well someone who may forever be alienated from her on a social plane in the usual community, this girl may seek to change rooms so as to gain the advantage of a white girl, preferably the same religion and social background, who will be more acceptable for her own social motives or at least to those motives which she feels prevail, motives which a fraternity based society tend to promote.

Accordingly the University might stave off further embarrassment by trying in the future to achieve this "harmony" by putting likes with likes! Is this what we really want from our Educational Institution?

-Denise F. MacKean, part-time student

Grading System Defended

TO THE EDITOR: With reference to a letter to the Editor on April 7 concerning Penn State's present system of grading, I wish to impress upon the author of the letter and approximately 10,000 other members of the student body that we are in college to gain general knowledge and to prepare for the future; not for as petty a reason as high numbers on our transcripts.

Good grades definitely deserve praise and admiration, but notice that the superior students simply work hard and don't find it necessary to bicker with their professors for every extra available point. Students tend to put themselves on a pedestal and expect more than

they actually deserve.

The purpose of our grading system is not to determine exact percentages but to indicate whether a person is an A, B, C or D student. (Anyone whose average falls below that level is certainly no "student".) A 69.4 or even a 69.9, for that matter, is still a D; if a person is so obsessed with losing face upon receipt of a D, he should contribute that extra effort to push himself over the boundary into the C classification.

If students stopped fretting about their grades and began employing their brains for serious study, they would benefit themselves and make life more pleasant for their harrassed instructors.

-Belle Gluskin, '63

Gazette

- TODAY
Ag Student Council, 7 p.m., 212 HUB
Alpha Kappa Psi, 7 p.m., Delta Upsilon
Angel Flight, 7:30, 111 Boucke
AWS South Halls Council, 9 p.m., Miss Houtz's office
Campus Party, 6:30 p.m., 217 HUB
Career Day, 8 a.m.-11 p.m., HUB ground floor
Cwens, 8 p.m., 215 HUB
Ed Student Council, 8 p.m., 217 HUB
Ed Student Council Coffee Hour, 7 p.m., HUB dining room C
Froth Circulation, 7 p.m., 215 HUB
Future Teachers, 10 a.m., HUB assembly hall
ICCB, 8 p.m., 203 HUB
Industrial Education Society, 7:30 p.m., TKE

- IVCF, 12:45 p.m., 219 HUB
LA Lecture Series, 7:30 p.m., HUB assembly hall
Nittany Grotto, 7:15 p.m., 121 MI
Panhel, 6:30 p.m., 203 HUB
Penn State Bible Fellowship, 6:30 p.m., 214 HUB
Placement, 8 a.m.-5 p.m., 203, 212 HUB
Prof Snarf, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., HUB first floor
Science Fiction Society, 7 p.m., 214 HUB
Schuhplattlers, 7 p.m., 204 Eng. B
Spring Week He-Man Committee, 7 p.m., 218 HUB
TM Movies, noon - 6 p.m., HUB assembly hall
West Halls Judicial, 12:15 p.m., 217 HUB