

Editorial Opinion

# A Plurality With Dignity

Student government took quick action to work its way out of a perilous situation somewhat extra-legally last night when it agreed to insure that a plurality of votes would be sufficient for election to SGA offices.

Although SGA Assembly, which has found itself in several untenable situations recently, did not have a quorum, it made its decision by a straw vote and SGA president Richard Haber pledged to carry out the Assembly's wishes.

Assembly drew upon past precedents and expediency to clarify procedure for this election.

It is clear that a ruling favoring elections by a majority would have been in the true democratic tradition and would have yielded a clear mandate to the winner.

Yet this probably would have made a run-off election inevitable and would have magnified an unfortunate oversight in the present SGA constitution.

The end result might have increased student apathy when, with the large voting turnout, it seems that the fog just may be lifting from past "sophisticated" disinterest in SGA.

In contrast, it may also be noted that the case favoring a plurality election was strong when the past precedents in this vein, both recent and under Cabinet in 1955, were considered.

This sense of tradition and dignity is new to SGA and extremely complimentary.

We were also pleased to see that Richard Haber agreed to use his executive powers in aiding the implementation of Assembly's straw vote decision.

He guaranteed that he would issue an executive order insuring what the Assembly, for lack of a quorum could not—that plurality would rule.

Letters

## Foianini Backed By Bonella

**TO THE EDITOR:** Within the last several years our SGA has been subject to a constant degradation by a seemingly endless line of status seekers, opportunists, and spotlight personalities.

Penn State student government deserves a better chance than it has gotten in these "depressing" years, and only you the students can give it the impetus it requires.

You as individuals must collectivize (by voting) on behalf of the man who in your opinion can lift SGA out of its quandary.

While activities are good experience, they are not a panacea. It takes more than activities to give a candidate the backbone to stand behind his convictions and push for what he thinks and knows the students want from SGA.

What good comes from reading a long list of activities, related or unrelated to government if they have not helped the candidate mature.

What leadership qualities did Mr. Harrison and Mr. Alexander exert in SGA this past year? If any, were their contributions substantial?

I contend that these two gentlemen in question DID NOT exert nor do they possess the characteristics of a strong leader who can mold the thoughts of the members of SGA, for if these qualities were part of them, they would have come to the forefront during the struggle of reorganization rather than losing their plans in the oblivion of secret meetings and sorority rush.

In evaluating the candidates, I find only one such man aspiring for the top student office in the University who possesses the leadership potential supplemented by heart, drive, and desire to lift SGA to its former stature.

In his quiet, yet affirmative approach, Mr. Dennis Foianini definitely warrants your consideration as All-University President.

—John F. Bonella, '61

Letters

## Williams' View of Ulsh; 'A Victim of the System'

**TO THE EDITOR:** Wayne Ulsh is a naive student who has become the victim of wanting status on this campus. He is willing to do almost anything to achieve this status.

Once again Mr. Ulsh, our Senator from Old Main, showed his ability to make irresponsible statements without having facts behind them.

The Daily Collegian has supported no one. In her column Miss Teichholtz was only stating her rather strong convictions. She sat in the gallery at the SGA meetings for a year and I respect her opinions. I respect them because I sat in the same gallery and find many of her opinions to be true.

One wonders whether the misguided Mr. Ulsh would like to do away with all freedom of the press. Is this what his constituents in Old Main want?

As Mr. Ulsh well knows, Mr. Foianini has showed an interest in student government before. My question is, where is Ulsh's interest in the students when he refuses to introduce bills into the Assembly until he talks to the "boys."

It appears that Mr. Foianini is too popular with the students. The Administration is afraid that he might win and hence campaigning in the dining halls and rooms are no longer permitted.

Fraternalities have been tell-

ing their brothers not to vote for Mr. Foianini because he is anti-fraternity. This is absurd. Mr. Dufner has refused to have ballot boxes in the dining halls.

Yet with all these disadvantages Mr. Foianini's popularity is increasing. There is no doubt in my mind that he would make the best SGA president.

Perhaps Mr. Foianini is wrong in believing that the students should have a say in matters which directly affect them and in believing that the SGA should be more than an activity.

I have worked with the SGA during the past year and I know it can be very effective if it has the proper leader. Foianini is that man. He has intelligence, initiative, and plans action instead of words.

Alexander has made a terrible mess out of reorganization. Harrison has repeatedly changed his position during the campaign so that it agrees with Old Main.

Is this what we want for our SGA President?

I urge all students to vote in the elections for the person who they think will make the best leader. SGA needs a strong leader; Dennis Foianini is the person who will do the best job.

—Gomer Williams '63

## 'Mathis Plank' Termed Cheap

**TO THE EDITOR:** With elections now going on it looks like Bob Harrison has come up with the cheapest trick we will see in this campaign.

I am referring to his strategically-timed disclosure of the University Party's "Mathis Plank."

While his announcement that he had learned of a date when Johnny Mathis could appear here was carefully worded to imply that this was just a sample of the hard work Mr. Harrison will do if elected, it was also calculated to attract the votes of those students who are more interested in amusement than in our student government.

Perhaps these students don't

realize just how simple and meaningless Harrison's action was. With just one phone call or letter (to General Artists Corporation) any student on campus can learn the open dates of hundreds of other top performers.

That Harrison was the first to contact the agency shows only the cleverness of his campaign managers. It is likely that this is an indication of how much time and effort Harrison would put into the office of SGA president if elected.

I sincerely hope that no students will permit such cheap stunts as this to cloud the real issues in this election.

—Steve Monheimer '64

## C.D. Protest Misinformed

**TO THE EDITOR:** The group that protested the CD test is obviously misinformed. Civil Defense is a very efficient national organization which will provide invaluable service to the people in case of war.

When an atomic attack does come, it will not be the final blow. True, the destruction will be staggering, but it is possible to live through a nuclear explosion with proper protection.

We will have about 15 minutes warning of a missile attack. If in this time we take cover in a properly designed shelter, our chances are good.

Outside of the area of major destruction the problem will be radiation. A properly designed shelter will prevent fallout from entering and it will probably be safe to go outside after a week or so.

Civil Defense will be responsible for getting people to these shelters, providing supplies, communication, disaster equipment, and trained radiation detection personnel. These things are necessary for survival.

If some people want to stand and yell "peace" while they are being turned into radioactive gas, let them, but for myself, I'll take cover and be around to finish the war and rebuild.

—Harold Harrington, '63

## Control in the 'Jungle'

**TO THE EDITOR:** I read with interest Meg Teichholtz's column on the activities jungle at Penn State.

After the recent revelation that the BX Board of Control has been staffed for the past six years exclusively by members of three fraternities, Tau Kappa Epsilon, Phi Sigma Delta, and Delta Sigma Phi, I wonder if her statements that status seekers are groomed for positions in student government are not essentially true.

I note that all three of the BX fraternities have candidates in the election. Four fraternities who ran winning candidates for the top offices last

year are doing the same again this year.

The student body has not had an independent president in the last four years. Only one independent is running for office, Dennis Foianini.

Duane Alexander, running independent of a party is a member of Tau Kappa Epsilon.

It seems that there is indeed a power structure at Penn State, although, as Bob Umstead explained during the BX incident, "anyone is free to try out."

A continued lack of interest on the part of the student body will certainly ensure that this structure will remain intact in the coming year.

—Joannah M. Purnell '63

## Eichmann May Reawaken World

**TO THE EDITOR:** This letter is written in regard to Stephen Blum's article: "Eichmann, A Reverse Christ" (April 27, 1961 Daily Collegian).

As I see it, the trial of Adolf Eichmann can serve one great purpose, that is to re-awaken the peoples of the world, especially those who call themselves Aryan, to the terrible crimes committed against the Jews and against humanity.

I am inclined to agree with Mr. Blum in that the trial will be fruitless.

The world wants to forget this horrible calamity so that it will not weigh heavy on its conscience.

The fact that Dr. Robert Servatius, chief counsel for Eichmann, made a statement to the effect that the reparations

made by the German government to Israel paid for the Jews "convince me that the world has already forgotten."

In essence, Dr. Servatius presented the world Jewish Community with a receipt: 6 MILLION JEWS — PAID IN FULL.

However, this does not mean that Israel should not try Eichmann. I am inclined to believe that Israel has a moral responsibility to try Eichmann, and to expose all of the grotesque acts committed against the Jews and against humanity.

The world will be a better and safer place to live when and only when it remembers. Until such time, it is the responsibility of those in a position to do so to remind the world of its past transgressions.

—Richard J. Brumberg, '64

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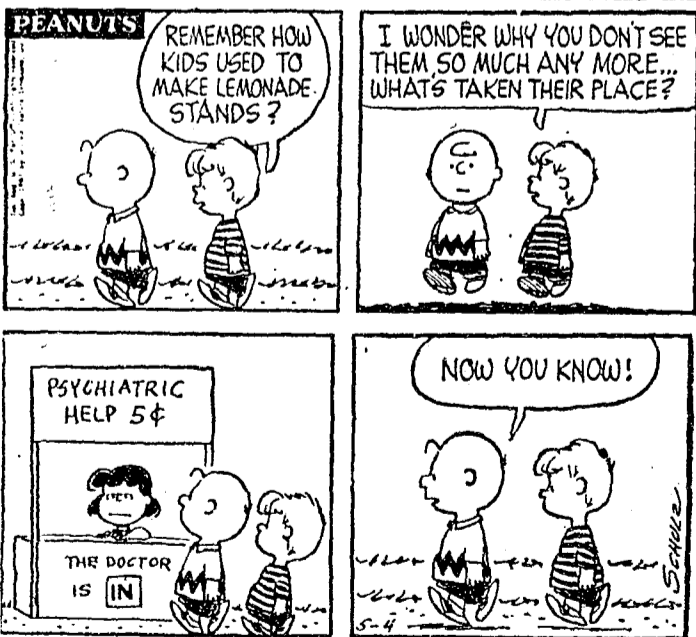
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## Gazette

TODAY

- Ag Hill Party, 6:30 p.m., 216 HUB
- Air Force Glee Club, 8 p.m., HUB Assembly room
- Angel Flight Drill, 6:30 p.m., HUB terrace
- Block 'S' Club, Flashcard Committee, 7 p.m., 218 HUB
- Cadet Staff, 7 p.m., 9 Carnegie
- Cheer Club, 7 p.m., HUB cardroom
- Chi Epsilon, 7:45 p.m., 212 HUB
- Elections, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., ground floor HUB
- Elections Committee, 7 p.m., HUB cardroom
- Gamma Sigma Delta, 6:30 p.m., dining rooms A and B HUB
- Gamma Sigma Sigma, 6:30 p.m., 217, 218 HUB
- German Department, 8 p.m., main lounge HUB
- Home Economics Seminar, 12:30 p.m., dining room A HUB
- IVCF, 12:45 p.m., 218 HUB
- Liberal Arts Student Council, 6:30 p.m., 215 HUB
- Liberal Party, 9 p.m., 212 HUB
- SGA, Executive, Legislative Reorganization meeting, 7 p.m., 203 HUB
- Sorority House Managers, 8 p.m., 216 HUB
- University Party, 7 p.m., 212 HUB
- WYZ Committee, 1-5 p.m., 213 HUB