

Editorial Opinion

World Listening, Everything 'Go'

Early yesterday afternoon hundreds of students sat or stood tensely in the Hetzel Union lounge encircling a television screen that broadcast the final moments of astronaut Glenn's flight around the globe.

When it appeared that complications in the Marine lieutenant colonel's re-entry heat shield might develop and when Cape Canaveral lost verbal communication with the astronaut, lips tightened, fists clenched, the crowd moved just a little closer to the screen.

Those who arrived at the change of classes stood at the edge of the crowd—for few left, even though they had classes.

And when Glenn was finally aboard the USS Noa, a burst of self-conscious applause echoed for the man who had seen three days and three nights—in four hours—from his space ship window.

In the next few months, human and mechanical brains alike, will be evaluating the nation's achievement, attempting to rate it with the Soviet manned rocket which completed 17 revolutions.

We will refrain from prognosticating the relative merits of Glenn's flight in favor of trumpeting much pride in the openness with which this government has treated manned space flight.

For the hundreds in the HUB yesterday were matched by crowds in all corners of the globe as the countdown and details of the flight were broadcast for the peoples of the world.

The citizens of Perth, Australia, turned on their city's lights as a signal to our astronaut. And when he saw the lights and thanked the people, they heard him, as people in all nations could hear him.

A woman in the Soviet Union, listening to the Russian language broadcast over Voice of America, told a news correspondent how happy she was for the people of the United States. In India those with radios listened in Hindi.

The lack of secrecy brought many skeptics and critics into the open when Glenn's flight was repeatedly postponed. To tell them how to hide their heads in shame would be ridiculous, for if disaster had tripped a switch or altered an arc the world would have sneered and condemned.

The risk of failure was taken and remains not only consonant with the free press and open society, but in opposition to the Soviet closed society treatment of very similar events where mystery still shrouds the flights of Soviet astronauts.

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Letters

Frosh Hit Hutchins' Reviews

TO THE EDITOR: We wish to give our support to Mr. Petlock and his letter concerning Mr. Hutchins' review of "Witness for the Prosecution." If this were Mr. Hutchins' first unfounded criticism of Penn State theatre, we would not feel so strongly about the Daily Collegian's publishing a thoroughly incompetent reviewer.

Let us establish first that the theatre at Penn State is not flawless. However, if there is going to be any review at all, it should and must be a thoughtful, accurate, and constructive one.

Mr. Hutchins did not even remain for the entire performance. (A murder mystery no less!) How, repeat how can Mr. Hutchins feel qualified to comment on a play of which he has only seen a portion.

Secondly, the set Mr. Hutchins declaimed as "realistic" was conscientiously, theatrically effected in a stylized manner.

In reference to his comments on certain characterizations we wish to again point out that in any play a character is not completely formed until the final curtain.

Pertaining to Mr. Hutchins' objection to unnecessary variation in facial hues, we ask one question, does Mr. Hutchins observe on our campus 17,000 students with identical skin textures?

Doesn't The Daily Collegian, as a newspaper with a very large student following, feel that their responsibility to the student body is to provide accurate criticisms from a qualified reviewer?

—David Pines '65
—Christy Heilner '63

Rock 'n Roll Rebuttal

TO THE EDITOR: In regard to a letter published in the Daily Collegian February 17, written by Mr. Szwarc and Mr. Yelen, I have one suggestion: If you don't like the Lion's Den the way it is, then stay out.

No one is begging you to come in. If you wish to listen to classical music, you can go upstairs where there are booths and classical records.

I also wish you would consider how much money the University makes because of that "rock n' roll trash." They are able to increase their food sales, candy and ice cream sales, etc. How many would come to the Lion's Den to eat after the juke box was filled with classical music?

Finally, have you ever seen the students at the Den, the way they enjoy themselves with that juke box going? No, Mr. Szwarc and Mr. Yelen, I don't think the University could satisfy the wishes of a few, while a couple hundred sacrifice.

—Donald R. McMenimen '63

Misplaced Joke

TO THE EDITOR: In view of the low score and the comfort-lead in the last quarter of the Army basketball game, John Mitchell's display of dribbling skill cannot be dignified as a game-saving stall.

This type of amusement, while appropriate to Marcus Haynes and the Harlem Globetrotters, is out of place in an intercollegiate competition, where the definition of "sportsmanship" excludes showmanship, comedy, and the ability to draw a foul.

In simple analogy to the Miami football game, the shoe is now on the other foot.
—R. C. H. Schmidt
Graduate Student

the clicking shutter

Fire Danger

by John Beauge

Sunday evening the State College fire whistle blew and five trucks and men sped to a car fire on College Ave., across from Atherton.

The equipment that responded included a ladder truck, a tank truck and several pumpers. Why was all this equipment necessary for such a small fire?

Being curious, I called the dispatcher at the Borough Building. She told me that most times when the alarm is called in, the party gives the type of fire. However, when the firemen call in to find out where the blaze is, only the location of it is given.

The reason for this, the dispatcher said, was that if the firemen knew it was only a small fire, it might be impossible to get any of them to respond.

I couldn't help but wonder if the Alpha firemen were nothing but glory seekers only wanting to go to the big fires. I always thought that firemen, paid or not, would respond to all kinds of fires.

In my opinion it is very poor judgment to send all the equipment to small fires. In the first place there is always a danger when emergency

equipment goes speeding through intersections.

Also, whether it is against the law or not, there are those who chase fire engines. The more trucks that go, the more people want to follow them.

Because the firemen don't know the size of the fire until they reach the scene, often when there is a grass fire out in the country all the trucks respond.

What would happen if at the same time there would be a dormitory fire on campus or a similar one downtown. It is true they are in radio contact, but figure how long it would take to get the equipment back from some rural area. It is possible that lives could be lost.

The dangerous practice of sending all the equipment, often on "wild goose" chases, should stop.

I hope that it will soon be before someone loses his life or is badly injured either in an accident involving the fire equipment or as a result of a fire that rages out of control while the engines are somewhere else putting out a minor blaze.

World At A Glance

Senate Passes Spending Bills For Next Year

HARRISBURG (AP) — The Senate, between occasional breaks to check the progress of America's first orbital space flight, passed \$937 million worth of appropriations bills yesterday.

The historic feat of astronaut John Glenn attracted as much, if not more, attention in the Senate than Gov. Lawrence's \$910 million general spending bill for 1962-63.

The general appropriations bill, which goes back to the House for agreement on a \$50,000 increase, passed on a vote of 49-1 minutes before Glenn was scheduled to land in the Atlantic Ocean.

A RECESS lasting an hour was declared before the senators took up and passed a \$20.2 million appropriation for Pennsylvania State University and a \$9.1 million additional school subsidy bill.

At the start of the session the Senate observed a minute of silent prayer for the safety of Glenn. After he landed, the chamber unanimously adopted a resolution praising him and members of the team which thrust him around the globe.

ACTION ON THE appropriation bills cleared the way for possible adjournment of the 1962 session next week.

Democratic leaders of both houses have tentatively set Wednesday, Feb. 28 as the last day of the constitutionally restricted session. The legislature this year may consider only fiscal matters.

71-Year-Old Goldfine To Be Paroled Friday

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Justice Department announced Tuesday Bernard Goldfine, ailing 71-year-old Boston industrialist imprisoned for income tax evasion, will be paroled Friday.

A department spokesman said a condition of the parole is that Goldfine report to a private hospital or convalescent home.

Kennedy Asks Pay Increases

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Kennedy asked Congress yesterday to vote a pay increase for the government's 1,640,000 white collar workers.

With a view to putting them on a par with nonfederal salaries, Kennedy proposed increases ranging from 3.7 per cent to about 33 per cent over a three-year period starting next Jan. 1.

The new scales would add about \$1 billion to the government's annual payroll of \$10 billion for white collar workers around the world.

Confending that low wages in government endanger national security by failing to hold competent workers, Kennedy said he was proposing a wholly new, common sense approach to the problem.

He said he was proposing "federal pay reform, not simply a federal pay raise."

Flyer Cooperates With Questions

WASHINGTON (AP) — Francis Gary Powers "is cooperating fully with his interrogators," including volunteering to take lie detector tests, a spokesman said yesterday.

The announcement by State Department press officer Lincoln White was the fullest official account so far of the still-secret quizzing of the U2 pilot released by the Russians on Feb. 10.

White described as "totally inaccurate" a report that Powers had been required by Central Intelligence Agency interrogators to submit to lie detector tests and truth serum drags.

Angola Bulletins Note Renewed Rebel Attack

LUANDA, Angola (AP) — Official bulletins issued here yesterday report renewed attacks by rebellious tribes in Angola. Three civilian road workers were slain in one attack. The rainy season has set in but Portuguese troops are mopping up terrorist bands, the report said.