

Editorial Opinion

Capital Paper Cites University's Fund Need

Excerpts from an editorial which appeared in The Harrisburg Patriot, Sept. 21, 1962

The 11 Central Pennsylvania colleges and universities have hit a new peak in enrollment this fall, close to 30,000 students, but yet, as many college officials themselves would admit, the enrollment is not high enough.

The projected increase of college students through the nation is 8 per cent, but the 11 schools in this broad area of Pennsylvania have been able to boost their capacities only by 2.3 per cent over last year.

Eight of the 11 schools... have set enrollment records for themselves. But their gains, coupled with the increases at Franklin and Marshall College and Lebanon Valley College, are not enough to offset the standpat enrollment figure at (The) Pennsylvania State University.

Penn State, because of budget problems, cut its freshman class by 800 students to 2,850 this fall. The drop was serious. It means, among other things, that while six colleges in Central Pennsylvania have larger freshman classes than they've ever had before, the overall number of freshmen in this area's schools is down from last year by almost 600 students, to 6,445.

A smaller freshman enrollment this year than last? It seems a strange statement. An estimated one out of every two of June's high school graduates in the nation, or 58.6 per cent, is in college this fall. Pennsylvania's mark is much lower, 30,200 of the 103,000 graduates, or 29.3 per cent.

Fortunately, one reason why its (Penn State's) freshman class is smaller this year than last is on the positive side... Penn State had fewer flunk-outs and drop-outs this past academic year than it normally has...

The second reason... is its losing battle for state funds. The University received only \$20 million from the Legislature. This appropriation, though \$1 1/2 million higher than last year's, was still \$5 million under the university's needs.

It is for these statistical reasons, if no other, that the expansion program at Penn State must be supported...

Certainly the demand for higher education is here. But all expansion costs at Penn State just can't be met by higher charges to the resident students at University Park. Their education now is expensive enough.

The next Governor will find the problem waiting on his desk. Before his term of office is up, the problem could become far worse. Many more young Pennsylvanians will be seeking admission to college. This is no idle "population boom" estimate. These students are in the ninth and tenth grades now, and they can't just wait around until Pennsylvania puts its higher education house in order.

A Student-Operated Newspaper 58 Years of Editorial Freedom

The Daily Collegian

Successor to The Free Lance, est. 1887

Published Tuesday through Saturday morning during the University year. The Daily Collegian is a student-operated newspaper. Entered as second-class matter July 5, 1934 at the State College, Pa. Post Office under the act of March 3, 1879. Mail Subscription Price: \$6.00 a year. Mailing Address - Box 261, State College, Pa.

Member of The Associated Press

ANN PALMER Editor

HERBERT WITMER Business Manager

City Editors: Joan Mehan and David Bolhech; News and World Affairs Editor: Kay Mills; Editorial Editor: Carol Kunkleman; Sports Editor: John Morris; Assistant Sports Editor: Ken Dealing; Photography Co-Editors: Tom Brown and Don Coleman; Personnel Director: Saralee Orton.

Local Ad Mgr.: Jean Ruhl; Assistant Local Ad Mgr.: Jane Silverstein; National Ad Mgr.: Barbara Brown; Credit Mgr.: Ralph Friedman; Assistant Credit Mgr.: Harry Rauch; Promotion Mgr.: Barry Levitt; Classified Ad Mgr.: Catherine Baumer; Circulation Mgr.: Phil Guest; Personnel and Office Mgr.: Lynn Murphy.



Letters

Frosh Urges Class Spirit

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN: As the second day of customs came to a close, I found myself facing the Customs Board. The rule, broken, in this case, is rather irrelevant, for I was not only chastised for my error, but also given a new outlook on Penn State life; specifically, the value of customs and the building of school spirit.

After listening to the questions and comments of these esteemed upperclassmen, I realized that the two subjects were inseparable. Customs is not to make fools out of freshmen but to help them to feel part of a group. When this idea is instilled in the frosh, the acquiring of school spirit follows naturally. The entire purpose is not getting masses to be "rah, rah, team," but to enable the newcomers to appreciate the assets of a higher education, a process of learning which extends past the textbook.

In all humility I submit this letter and sincerely hope my fellow classmen will learn to deeply appreciate The Pennsylvania State University as I am now beginning to do.

An appreciative as well as castigated frosh.

-E. Lee Birchall, '66

Value, Tasks Of Customs Questioned

TO THE EDITOR: Perusing Wednesday's Collegian, I came upon an item to the effect that a freshman was given the task of writing a short essay on the value of Customs and school spirit. This seems to me to be a very worthwhile task.

However, since any such document prepared by a freshman can be no more than a simple regurgitation of that which has been avowed by the Customs Board (for obvious reasons), and since this does not, to my mind, fulfill the above objective, I take Smith Corona in hand to attempt to rectify the situation.

Just what is the value of customs? Let us explain the standard answers. We are told that it builds a spirit of class unity. Whether or not unity is desirable is debatable. However, without going into that, I would like to ask if anyone, who has gone through Customs can seriously say that they feel any bond with the other several thousand people who went through it with them. The thought of uniting a class of that size with anything as juvenile as Customs is absolutely silly.

We are also told that Customs is of value because it encourages freshmen to learn the location of buildings on campus. There may be a certain value to this, because the upperclassman who does not know just exactly where in the boondocks his next class is may ask directions.

However, after Customs is over, the freshman will do just what his upperclass contemporaries do, i.e. he will remember only the location of those buildings with which he is concerned or which lie upon his normal route of travel, which he already knew.

That Customs builds school spirit is evidenced by the sea of humanity which stood in front of the HUB last weekend making a ridiculous din and looking for all the world like the crowd in front of a burning parochial school in their little blue hats. This type of school spirit is what will keep this university exactly what it is: Farmers' High School, to the umpteenth degree. But then that's traditional, and Customs is supposed to instill tradition.

Finally let us look at the enforcers of Customs. Note the obvious sense of duty, the genuine desire to help the freshmen, which radiates from their kind and sensitive faces. Here we come to the real reason and the purpose of Customs. It's a dandy way for the fourteenth graders to have fun at someone else's expense.

-Dennis Newton '63

for the record

Soviet-Cuban Pact

by carol kunkleman

The usually unsavory smell of fish may become even more unpleasant to the United States when the Soviet Union begins its surprise trading pact with Cuba for the commodity.

The pact, announced Tuesday by Prime Minister Fidel Castro, provides for the building of a fishing port in Havana Bay for Russian trawlers.

Castro said the port facilities would provide headquarters for a joint Cuban-Soviet Atlantic fishing fleet. In addition to the usual fishing regalia, a radio station will be provided, he said.

The Soviet Union, in turn, will eventually turn over 115 to 130 trawlers to the Cuban government - after Soviet crews have trained Cuban sailors to operate the vessels.

Castro emphasized that the port and facilities will remain in Cuba's control and that the Russians will have their use for about 10 years. But regardless of the time limit or who is in control of the port, the fact remains that the Soviet Union again is one step closer to the shores of the United States and the realization of its dream for world conquest. And

this could mean that we, too, will soon be smelling Russian fish.

Another fact makes the realization even more meaningful. Our state department knows that many of the Soviet Union's trawlers are anything but just fishing craft. They're known to be carrying radar and other electronic devices which they have used to monitor U.S. missile test shots at Cape Canaveral and to observe our fleet maneuvers.

Observation of the U.S.-Soviet race for friends shows that food and the trading of food is a great weapon. The need for food is a desire to capitalize on, since it sustains life, and most of us have the desire to live.

We also, like the Russians, have learned that by teaching the peoples of the world how to grow more food (by sending trained technicians and agricultural experts abroad) we can create more good will than by appropriating money and equipment they don't know how to operate.

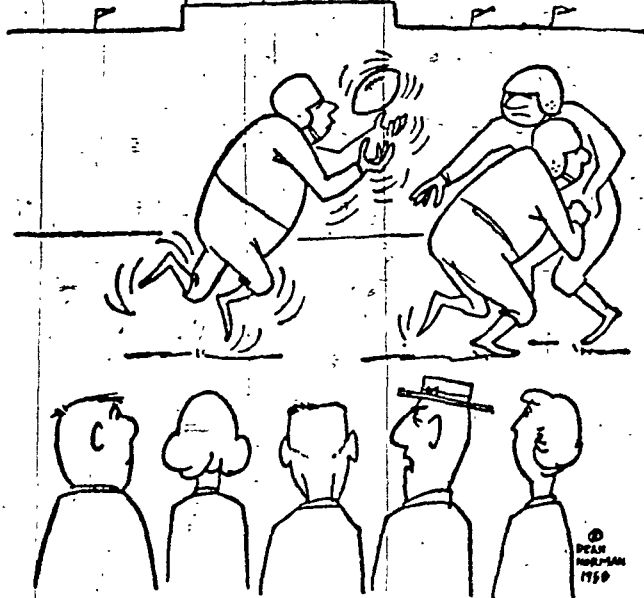
The radio station planned for the port is yet another evidence that the Soviet Union plans to saturate as much of Cuba and the surrounding area as possible with its propaganda.

While President Kennedy was vigorously criticized for his statement that he would send arms to Cuba if necessary, we cannot ignore this possibility - or else the senators in Washington now arguing about what to do about Cuba will find they're eating a truly Red salmon.



KUNKLEMAN

CAMPUS COMEDY



LITTLE MAN ON CAMPUS

