

Editorial Opinion

The

Lion



Roars

For the members of the University Senate who yesterday displayed insight and initiative for the future of this University.

The Senate's action has been paralleled in the recent past only by its decision to end discrimination in campus organizations.

In close and tense balloting, the Senate voted against another postponement on the question of voluntary vs. compulsory ROTC programs and in place of further procrastination recommended to President Walker and the Board of Trustees that the Reserve Officers Training Corps program be offered to all students on a voluntary basis beginning summer term, 1963.

The vote centered around the issue of whether to delay decision until pending legislation on ROTC revision is considered in the National Congress or whether to use the right of this University to decide for itself which type of program is best for the school and the nation.

It was recommended by the Senate Committee on Military Instruction that the Senate vote against voluntary ROTC at this time and wait for Congressional legislation which is expected early next year for a two-year selective program.

The majority of the senators, however, did not condone this "waiting game" and showed both in debate and by written ballot that they felt it was time for the University to take the initiative in the matter.

Before any action can be taken on the Senate's recommendation, it must be approved by the University's Board of Trustees. After viewing the close vote in the Senate, we expect a similar situation in the Board of Trustees.

The Board will have a serious issue to decide, for if and when voluntary ROTC is approved, the impact on both the University and the nation will be great.

Penn State has been recognized and influential among land-grant colleges due to its outstanding military training program. Because of the University's leadership in this field, the decision to adopt a voluntary program will probably have great influence outside State College.

We wholeheartedly support the action of the University Senate yesterday and feel that they have made a decision of which every student at this University can be proud.

The faculty has indeed lived up to the description given by Paul H. Davis in a recent article where he predicted that Penn State would eventually be one of the ten leading universities in the country.

Davis included as one of the factors on which he based his prediction an "alert, bold faculty unafraid of inventions and innovations."

We hope and trust that the Board of Trustees will recognize and uphold this achievement.

Initiative Needed

In talking with University Party chairman Mike Dzvonic and Liberal Party chairman Anne Morris, we have discovered that their ideals for political parties on this campus are very similar.

Allison Woodall, acting Campus Party chairman, was away from campus and unavailable for comment.

Both chairmen seem to agree that if parties would reexamine their aims and values and strive to make the institution truly serve the best interests of student government, they could be effective.

We strongly believe in the merits of political parties with the idea of a strong student government and a better university in mind.

For this reason we again urge that parties drop the "easy way out" and begin to build themselves into a necessary part of student government by participating in this fall Congressional election.

The power to move back election dates lies with the Congress. Such a move would naturally have its opponents but we strongly believe that the building of student government is a thing not to be postponed until convenient.

We would like to see the USG Congressmen "alert, bold and unafraid of inventions and innovations" on this matter.

for the record

Integration Leaders

by carol kunkleman

Several years ago columnist Walter Lippmann wrote that the wisest policy for integrating our schools would be to proceed by stages, beginning as soon as possible at the university and graduate school level. A policy such as this, Lippmann said, would be valuable in training both young Negro and white men and women to be leaders in their communities.

While it is true that our university is not faced with the tangible forces of integration such as those occurring at the University of Mississippi, I think it valuable to consider Lippmann's opinion in light of our position as potential community leaders.

As educated people we should condone neither the actions of the students at Ole Miss nor the opposition of Mississippi governor Ross Barnett in obstructing the admission of Negro James Meredith to that university.

Some point out that the Supreme Court made a tragic mistake in the first place by dumping the enforcement of their decision to integrate public schools into the hands of private groups instead of the federal government.

In its original decision, the court demanded only that Southern schools be integrated within 10 years. True, if the government had provided a master-type plan integration would have been carried out with greater authority and certainly more organization.

Others point out that integration in the public schools at the elementary and secondary level were just as poor a place to begin. They point out, in support of their argument, the trouble in Little Rock, Ark., when the first attempt was made to integrate public high school. At that time Gov. Orville Faubus also attempted to frustrate the order of the court, as did the Mississippi governor, and students and their parents also protested with violence to the integration.

There is one aspect of the present situation in Mississippi, however, which makes it distinct for the Little Rock incident. The Arkansas students were younger and because they were adolescents,

might be forgiven somewhat for their lack of maturity. Lippmann seems to be right, at least if the theory that mature students inhabit a university campus, that integration would have been easier at this higher level had it begun there.

The point can also be raised that we on this campus have not actually lived in the environment where most of this violence has occurred. This point is obviously valid, but does this mean we would condone actions such as those at Ole Miss? It seems more logical to presume that because we have received advanced education, we should be more capable of understanding the situation and stronger in our belief that causing factors should be eliminated.

Possibly the greatest challenge to us is that not only in Lippmann's opinion, but in those of our instructors, parents and fellow countrymen, we have the greatest potential for becoming leaders due to this country's great stress on education.

With such credit given to us, we must realize that decisions concerning integration will definitely be affecting our lives and those of our children. It might be easier to begin at the elementary level with our children so that by the time they are our age, they will not have to think about a decision to make. On the other hand, if we do not take advantage of our leadership, it could quite possibly be that we will be taking the attitude of Southerners and influencing our children in a light that does not reflect the merits of our education.

I do not believe that in conscience we would be willing to do this, for we have been given the benefit of a place to broaden

our views, overcome our prejudices and form our own philosophies. In light of this, we should be able to realize that these benefits have been passed to us because our country was originated to offer opportunities to all its citizens.

Many stalwart leaders such as Sen. Estes Kefauver of Tennessee, Gov. Luther Hodges of North Carolina (now Secretary of Commerce), and Gov. Pat Brown of California did not back down in their support of integrating schools in their states, in spite of opposition. They, too, had the higher education that we are now acquiring.

Gov. Barnett threatened to use police forces in Mississippi to nullify the federal law. Besides raising a question of constitutionality, the threat should serve as a warning to us that another block was placed along the road to achieving a common heritage through education in which integration could be achieved peacefully.

There are many Northern communities with housing and borough restrictions against race. These should be investigated. Other discriminatory practices are also prevalent in business.

Perhaps the greatest area of discrimination are the social restrictions. These I feel will take more time to dissolve, because of their more intangible nature, and probably our children will be faced with these same problems.

The point remains, however, that to utilize Lippmann's method for ridding ourselves of these tangible forces in an area so vital as education we can achieve now at least some of the common good for which we as educated Americans should be striving.



KUNKLEMAN

Letters

Block 'S' Leader Criticized For Football 'Commentary'

TO THE EDITOR: Ambition runs high on the Penn State campus, and rich its reward, for a sense of importance is achieved. Unfortunately, however, this importance can be over-emphasized, and upon occasion ridiculously so!

My letter is not intended to criticize the efforts of the Block "S" Club, nor to undermine the abilities of its staff; my quite ill feelings are to be directed only to the garrulous leader of this organization. For granted that Mr. Paul Krow must start a full 20 minutes before halftime preparing his group with details that might well have taken place at a meeting or in a mimeographed letter. For granted also that Mr. Krow must continue his manifesting throughout halftime. "All good things come to an eventual end," Mr. Krow doesn't!

Well into the last quarters we (the spectators) are informed on such wonderfully extraneous facts as how much the Block "S" cards have cost, predictions about the Block "S" going to the Rose Bowl, Mr. Krow's personal narration of the game and we get a glance at his rather startling humor; malheureusement. The cheerleaders, I suppose, are equally overjoyed to have such an amiable

fellow directing them in their cheers. What Mr. Krow fails to realize, is that he is not merely boring HIS organization, but that his microphone carries quite clearly into the senior, junior and sophomore sections and as far into the paying sections on the other side.

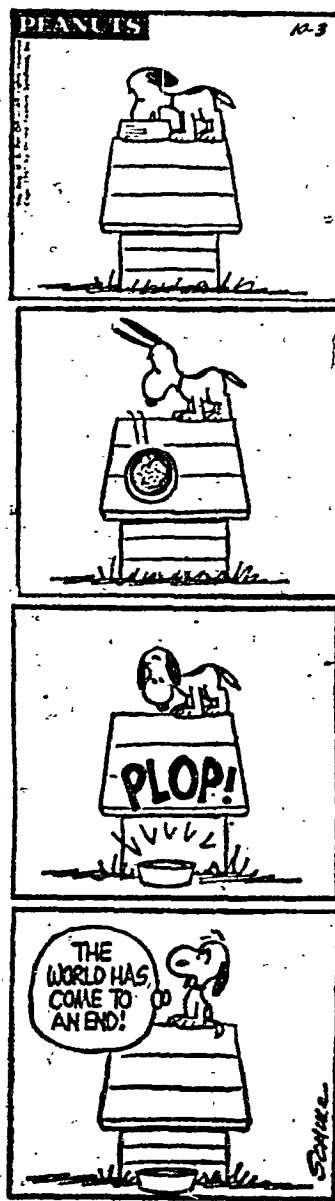
It must be depressing for Mr. Krow to see the game come to an end, and his audience begin to trickle away. It means that for a whole week this obnoxious exhibitionist must stagnate, until he can repossess the limelight. Cheers to you, Mr. Krow!

-R. B. Thomas, '63

Customs' Value Hit

TO THE EDITOR: At what point does fun and "school spirit" degenerate into senseless sadism? Is it simply the result of excess on the part of a few modern Neanderthals, or is it inherent in the whole system of Customs? If the former, the Freshman Custom Board's Gestapo apparatus should be turned on the heckling upperclassmen and not the bedeviled freshman who tries to preserve a shred of personal dignity. If the latter, abolish Customs all together.

-Larry Weychert, '64



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