

Editorial Opinion

# Academic Pro List

More than 2,000 students on this campus and 2,680 students studying for bachelor degrees on all Penn State campuses are on academic probation this term.

This represents 15.7 per cent of the undergraduate student body.

We find this an extremely disturbing and distressing situation.

The probation figures this term represent a 1.3 per cent increase over that of one year ago. But it is two per cent below the figure for the fall of 1959 and 4 per cent below that for fall, 1960. During both of these years the semester system was employed.

Supposedly the entrance requirements of this University have tightened drastically in the past five years. With a more select group of students, we naturally wonder why so many students have been unable to make a 1.7 average.

The recurrent high probation figures despite more rigorous admissions controls and the serious mental strains suffered by a number of students last year leads us to wonder about the current academic structure of this University.

There is no doubt that the term system has created certain pressures which did not exist under the semester plan. Students must grasp concepts in less time. Term papers must be completed in seven or eight weeks instead of in twelve or thirteen.

Also the end of the term fiasco which the administration calls a finals period is definitely not conducive to the achievement of good grades.

While many of the problems may stem from flaws within University structure, we feel some of them come from student attitude and inability to adapt to the term system.

Flaws in the University can be corrected. We urge that immediate action be taken on such evident problems as the final exam period and that probing studies of the term system be hastened so that its true value may be evaluated.

Student contribution to the high probation figure, however, remains solvable only with the individual.

Each freshman class offers an educational challenge to the faculty and administration of this University. Upperclass students must also meet this challenge.

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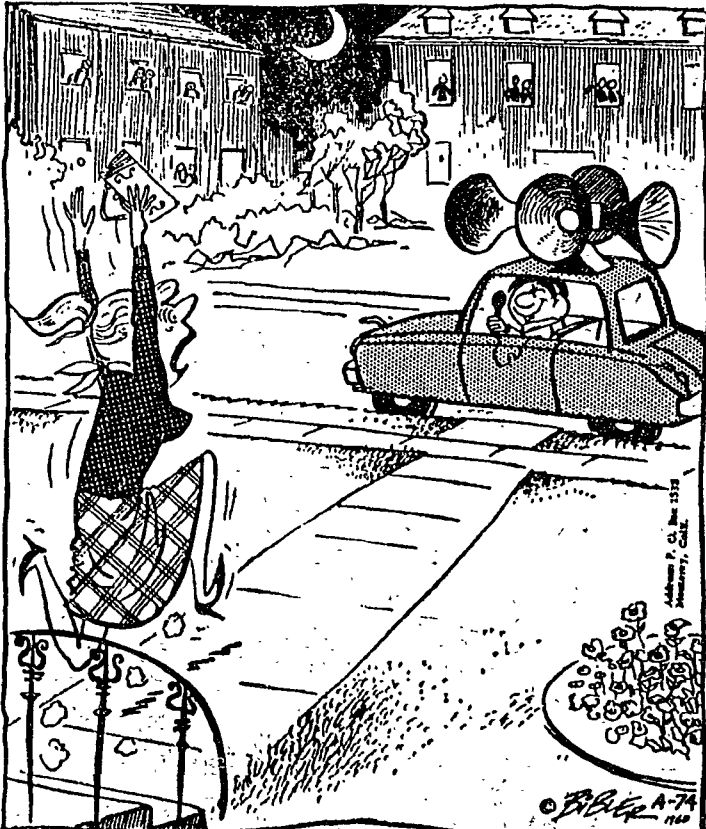
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ANN PALMER  
Editor

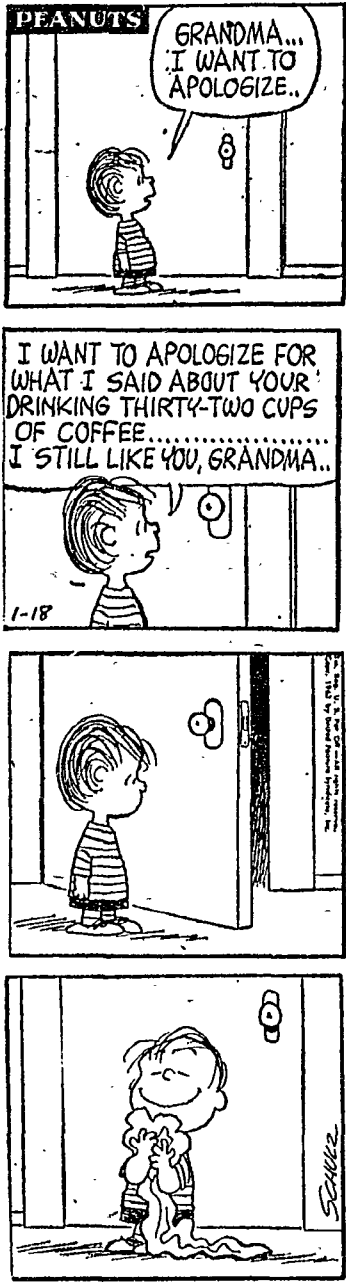
HERBERT WITMER  
Business Manager

Member of The Associated Press

### LITTLE MAN ON CAMPUS



OK, OK, I'M COMING! — BUT WHY CAN'T YOU JUST BLOW YER HORN LIKE TH' OTHER FELLOWS? — Lawrence Cameron '64



Letters

### Williams' Views On Katanga Challenged

TO THE EDITOR: Gomer Williams in Wednesday's Collegian said the United States was crossing up its own best interests by supporting U.N. efforts at forcefully unifying the Congo. This view-point is frequently offered here by people who own, or think they might own, shares of Union Haute Miniere stock, but there is no reason why Mr. Williams, whose interests are mainly military, should believe his best interests lie with Mr. Tshombe's.

We may dismiss most of Mr. Williams' letter as a nonsensical moral treatise, a sort of through-the-looking-glass in which bush-fighters adhere to Louis XIV-West Point "military ethics" and the U.N. troops have "diplomatic immunity" from bullets.

Yes, let us get down to the cobalt and uranium which is "our interest"—but not our only one—in the Congo. Rather than take the short gain by supporting the Belgians and British in maintaining Katanga autonomy, the United States has included the Congo in a broader policy of wooing developing lands away from communism.

Without the mineral wealth of Katanga the central government of Cyrille Adoula, a pro-Westerner, would fail along with the economy. The results of such a failure would be constant civil war in the bush, possible sabotage of Katanga capital and mines, and loss of African good will with concomitant loss of access to other African resources such as Sierra Leone's. In order to prevent heavy Communist infiltration of dissident elements in the Congo the United States would have to spend millions on buoying up the economy with little guarantee of visible results.

Soon we will be faced with nationalist take-overs in countries equally as vital to our interests as the Congo: King Saud's days are numbered and Portugal will not last forever in her African colonies. Our behavior in the Congo will, I believe, go a long way toward determining who will get the oil and other goodies from the new owners.

—Lawrence Cameron '64

viewpoint

# Constant Shadow

by dave bolbach

James H. Meredith's recent announcement that he will not return to the University of Mississippi for the spring semester unless definite changes are made to make his situation "more conducive to learning" raises an interesting question.

Was his statement merely an advance alibi for flunking out or was it a tactic employed by an impatient Meredith attempting to make progress that hadn't been made during his three months on the campus?

For most of the students at Ole Miss, the answer was obvious: Meredith was flunking out. When this reporter visited the campus early in December, many students were already certain that Meredith would flunk out. For them, his departure would mean victory—victory for violence and harassment as a solution to the problem.

It was inevitable, of course, that with the extreme pressure he has had to endure constantly, his schoolwork would suffer. Meredith himself admitted as much in an interview in December.

But Meredith is an intelligent person, and is aware of the consequences if he flunks out. Al-

though others would undoubtedly follow in his footsteps at Ole Miss, many segregationists would consider it just another strike against his race, which Meredith cares about just as much, if not more, than himself.

Meredith is also impatient to see progress made in the field of integration. This may have been the reason for his statement. As his lawyer, A. W. Willis, was quoted in this week's Newsweek: "Meredith feels that if he graduates at gunpoint, so what? I guess he feels he hasn't really cracked the wall after all, so why continue to take all of this pain and suffering?"

Meredith spoke of his resentment of the U.S. military policemen on campus during the interview. His resentment of the marshals, in fact, seems to equal that of the entire student body.

His desire to see them removed from the campus, however, seems a bit naive. Every student this reporter talked with at Ole Miss seemed sure that if they were removed, an attempt would be made to kill Meredith. And although he probably would sacrifice himself if it would further the cause of the Negro, he's intelligent enough to realize that such a situation would not help his cause.

Whatever the reasons for his statement, he will hopefully return to campus for the spring semester and, someday, be able to walk across the campus without a constant shadow.



BOLBACH

Letters

### Clean House Deserves Reward

Once upon a term, in a small town in central Pennsylvania, there stood a meeting hall of some repute. Each month a new show—filled with satire, humor and wit and aimed at some aspect of town life—was given here. The shows were very popular and always drew a large crowd.

Then, one day, a Sanitation Committee composed of some of the town's leaders came to inspect the meeting hall and speak to the producers of its shows. They were angry. "We've heard reports," they said, "that you've been neglecting your duty and have allowed this building to become quite dirty."

They began to look around and when they were done they decided that the meeting hall and its shows would have to go.

"They are detrimental to the good name of our town," they said. The appeals of the producers did no good. The Committee locked the door, took the key and foreclosed the mortgage on the hall.

The people of the town were shocked and unhappy, for the shows had come to mean a great deal to them. They did what they could to have the meeting hall reopened. They wrote letters and circulated petitions but it did little good.

The directors of the hall, meanwhile, were hard at work. They were determined to show the Committee that they could run a respectable establishment. And so, they undertook a massive house-cleaning program.

They met with leaders of the peoples' government association and drew up a set of housekeeping plans which would insure the building being kept in tip-top shape.

Mayor Walker, the town's highest official would himself appoint two members to the Board of Directors of the Hall. This board would meet every month to watch over the affairs of the hall.

The producers of the Hall's monthly show would have to be approved by this Board, as well.

Two advisors (instead of one as before) would be chosen to aid the staff of the hall. One would be from the town's Journalism Department, the other from the town's English department.

They too would help to make the hall a credit to the town.

The leaders of the hall submitted their new plans to the Committee. They had done what they could to "clean house" and now it was up to the town officials to pass on their proposed improvements.

This decision will be made Tuesday when the Committee on Student Organizations meets to consider authorization of a new "Froth."

Let us hope that they decide to unlock the door, give back the key, and renew the mortgage, so that once again Penn State students have their "meeting hall" and their "monthly show."

—Joseph Buchanan '64

LETTER POLICY

Letters to the editor must carry the full name of the author and identification of the author will be verified before any letter is published. In most cases, letters over 400 words will not be published. The Daily Collegian reserves the right to edit any letter if it is deemed necessary. The decision to publish or reject a letter lies solely with the editor; letters containing obvious misstatements or lacking in good taste or fair play will be rejected.

WDFM Schedule

- FRIDAY, JANUARY 18, 1963
- 4:15 "The Philadelphia" with Steve Monheimers
- Bach: Chorale Preludes
- Moussorgsky: Bald Mountain
- Tchaikovsky: 1812 Overture
- 5:00 Dinner Date: relaxing dinner music
- Bob Stegon announcing Congressional reports from the capitol
- 6:00 Washington Reports: Congressional reports from the capitol
- 6:15 Weather: Accurate weather forecast by Joel Myers
- 6:20 Ballet Theater: Delibes: Coppelia
- Bartok: Miraculous Mandarin
- Dukas: La Peri
- 7:30 Highlights: Sports: Jim Bukata interviews Snowy Simpson about the Penn State basketball team
- 7:40 Album of the Week: New album reviewed: Motin' Peter-Paul & Mary
- 7:55 News
- 8:00 Marquee Memories: Tonight: How to Succeed in Business with Paul Krow
- 9:00 Send Off: Jazz, pop, folk and comment—Ken Herahberger
- 12:00 Night Sound: Cool sounds of the night till 2:00 a.m. with Bob Junas