

Time To End Draft

(Editor's Note: Mark O. Hatfield, Republican Senator from Oregon, has provided The Daily Collegian with his professional opinion of the current draft situation.)

The time has come to end the military draft. That bald declaration will startle many. But when all the facts are in, and all the current and projected needs for military manpower have been taken into account, it is difficult to avoid the conclusion that America does not need the draft, America can afford not to have the draft, and America is overdue in bringing to an end this drastic invasion of the lives and liberties of her young men.

Congress is now beginning to debate President Johnson's legislation to extend the draft another four years. In four years past Congressional examination of this issue was perfunctory. This year things are different.

Thanks no doubt to the heightened awareness of America's young people, whose lives the draft so seriously affects, many in Congress are now for the first time rethinking the premises upon which the draft is supposedly based. An increasing number of them are finding it sadly out of step with both our Nation's traditions and with its military manpower needs.

We must never allow ourselves to forget that however pressing the circumstances, the draft is involuntary servitude. It is legitimate and constitutional when Congress, exercising its power to raise and support armies, has no reasonable alternative. But conscription must always be the last desperate resort for meeting military manpower needs, not the cheap and easy expedient.

The only real argument for having an involuntary draft is that the Nation could not reasonably afford to raise and retain the needed military manpower without it. I maintain that the Nation can afford to eliminate the draft. In doing so we will restore lost liberties. We can end once and for all the

inherent inequities of a compulsory system. We can upgrade our armed forces and increase our national security. And we can do it at a price this rich and powerful Nation can easily afford.

There is no numerical shortage of manpower for filling military ranks. Each year nearly four times as many men as the military needs enter the draft age pool. With more realistic service qualifications and sharply increased wages and fringe benefits, and with an enhanced status for military careers, we can attract the 500,000 men we need each year, even at Vietnam buildup level.

All we have to do is to make up our minds that we are going to stop exchanging precious liberties for false economy — false because, when the total economic costs of the draft system are taken into account, including civilian wages foregone by draftees, we may well be saving nothing at all. And this calculation fails to take into account the qualitative value of skilled career specialists serving in crucial military positions now filled by reluctant draftees.

From the standpoint of individual liberty, equity to all, the enhancement of national security, and the total economic costs, the draft fares badly in comparison with an all-volunteer armed forces system.

How do we get from the present draft to the volunteer army?

First, we must unequivocally reaffirm our commitment to the goal of voluntary armed forces. The draft should be extended for one or at the most two years. During that time the Defense Department should embark on a program designed to make the draft increasingly unnecessary. A special joint committee of Congress — independent of the Defense Department and the Selective Service System — should be set up to make recommendations for a phasing out of the draft, and to maintain a continual review of the Defense Department's progress toward that goal. And military pay and fringe benefits should be raised substantially, starting now.

It is time we made the firm decision to put an end to inequity, put an end to uncertainty, put an end to inefficiency, and regain for our young people the liberties the draft has taken from them.

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LETTER POLICY

The Daily Collegian accepts letters to the editor regarding Collegian news coverage or editorial policy and campus or non-campus affairs. Letters must be typewritten, no more than two pages in length, and should be brought to the office of The Daily Collegian in person so that identification of the writer can be checked. If letters are received by mail, The Collegian will contact the signer for verification. The Daily Collegian reserves the right to select which letters will be published and to edit letters for style and content.

BERRY'S WORLD AIRKEII



"Remember the good old days when all we did was just sniff glue?!"

TODAY ON CAMPUS

English Literature Discussion, 8 p.m., 214 Hetzel Union Building.
 HUB Committee Jammy, 9 p.m., HUB Ballroom.
 Interlandia Folk Dances, 7:30 p.m., 102 Chambers.
 Jawbone, 8 p.m., 415 E. Foster Avenue.
 Nickelodeon Nite, 7 p.m. HUB assembly room.
 Organization of Student Government Associations tournaments, 6 p.m., HUB lounge and game room.
 Reading Festival, 8:30 a.m., HUB assembly room.
 This 'n' That, 9 p.m., HUB cardroom.

On WDFM Radio-91.1

4-4:05 p.m. — WDFM News
 4:05-6 p.m. — Music of the Masters
 6-6:05 p.m. — WDFM News
 6:05-7 p.m. — After Six (popular, easy-listening)
 7-7:15 p.m. — Dateline News (comprehensive campus, national and international news, sports and weather)
 7:15-8 p.m. — Spotlight On Sports
 8-12 midnight — Tom Fitzgerald with popular music news on the hour
 12 midnight-4 a.m. Sat. — Paul Nichols with Top Forty, news on the hour



Letters To The Editor

Another Side to Conflict

TO THE EDITOR: Paul Levine and Brian Healy in their sports column the past few days have presented a very one-sided and prejudiced discussion on the NCAA-AAU struggle. The NCAA-AAU battle for jurisdiction of various meets and the athletes involved is a complex one. This is obvious from the fact that several governmental boards have failed to reach a suitable compromise between these two bodies.

The NCAA (also the AAU) is neither all right or all wrong and the articles presented in the Collegian are very misleading. They lead one to believe that the AAU are the bad guys and this is not true.

The articles mention the AAU and their money grabbing. What of the NCAA and their football? I participate in two varsity sports at Penn State and the football gate receipts pay my tuition, pay for the uniforms I wear, and pay for the equipment I use. I am very grateful for this and think it is a good and necessary thing but lets not condemn the AAU for their desire to make money.

Another point dealt with by writers Levine and Healy is the lack of facilities that the AAU has. It is true that the NCAA employs most of the coaches and owns most of the sports facilities, but these are for athletes enrolled in college. An athlete is eligible for three years of varsity competition under NCAA rules. An athlete's productive life may last 10 years or more. What is one to do after he is out of school? He needs independent organizations like the AAU to sponsor meets and clubs so that he may compete.

Dean McCoy is quoted as saying "The NCAA has never taken specific action against an athlete, except when the question of professionalism arises." What of the NCAA's 1.6 rule. An athlete, regardless of curriculum or school must maintain certain academic standards. Ineligibility due to academics is a heart breaking and, in some cases, unfair situation for an athlete. The point is that the NCAA does have many rules and regulations which hurt the individual athlete and not the school.

Mr. Levine has mentioned in one article "If the only way to protect the best interests of American athletes is legislative control, then it must be done." As an amateur athlete I consider government control of my activities unthinkable. The policies involved in the NCAA and the AAU is bad enough already without having the federal government involved.

I cannot hope to offer a suitable solution to the conflict but I would like to let people know that there is another side to the AAU-NCAA conflict than the one presented by writers Levine and Healy and I urge my fellow Collegian readers to realize this before forming an opinion.
 Jock Brown, '67

New Heads for Leary

TO THE EDITOR: Although not being particularly satisfied with modern materialistic society, I strongly object to the headline on your article on Sunday's debate between Doctors Leary and Louria. The content is not too bright, but I am mainly concerned with the title, which was quite twisted around and showed up the least important side of the debate. May I suggest "a posteriori" some other titles:

Instead of Leary, Louria Agree / LSD Can Be Valuable. I should have liked something at least as impersonal as the previous, but objective like: Leary, Louria Disagree / Can LSD Be Valuable?

Or a stronger statement centered around the real problem, like: Leary, Louria, Fierce Struggle / Psychosis or Salvation?

Definitely, I should have preferred a title with an appeal to the estimated 80 per cent of the students who are not drug candidates, and a more courageous attitude in facing the outspoken LSD supporter. Something like: Louria Defeated Leary / LSD Frightening Risk

But of course that is my personal bias (and the precise one of some others I talked with). The balanced program in this case made the evening more interesting since they were quite complementary.
 Claude Dassule, Graduate Student

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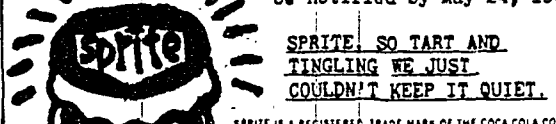
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