

# Put on Some Speed

The University Senate is discussing the campus bookstore proposal, the Undergraduate Student Government is discussing the campus bookstore proposal, students and interested non-students are discussing the University bookstore proposal. Everybody's talking about it; not too many are doing anything else.

The Senate tossed around pros and cons about the bookstore at a meeting Tuesday and finally established a "formal debating forum" to include the bookstore as a topic at the next meeting.

USG leaders have been weighing the pros and cons, too. They are generally in agreement for the establishment of a bookstore, although very few of them are really doing anything to back up what they say. Steve Gerson, chairman of the USG Administration Action Committee, and a few devotees of the issue have been waging a spectacular campaign in favor of the bookstore, but the going is still slow.

The point is that all this discussion, all this weighing of pros and cons, all this tardiness should be largely unnecessary. The bookstore proposal has been around for 30 years. That's been plenty of time to discuss the proposal. And, it's been discussed for the past 30 years as perennial issue No. 1 at the University.

Now a bookstore can easily become a reality.

The past weeks have given the cautious plenty of time to discuss the issue again. So what's left to talk about now the issue has been reactivated this long? It seems that some action could be taken.

USG may take a proposal from a Philadelphia book dealer who said he would sell textbooks to University students at reduced prices up to 18 per cent off list prices offered by merchants in State College. The actual mechanics of this link-up with Philadelphia may become more bothersome and impractical than dealing with firms established here in town, but at least someone is doing more than only talking. Unfortunately, though, the Senate hasn't come to any conclusions. Until it does, implementing the bookstore is almost impossible.

The Senate is always slow to recognize student opinion on various topics. Invariably, it will eventually get around to action. But why does it always take so long? A campus bookstore is an immediate financial gain for students who are presently threatened with the financial setback of a possible tuition increase. They want some results before the issue goes back to the shelves to be brought up again next year for the same treatment.

More than ever before, a campus bookstore can become a reality. Students expect some consensus from the Senate soon. So let's have it.

## 'Meaningful' Negotiations



The only hitch involved now in bringing the war to the negotiating table—if everyone is saying what they mean—seems to be President Johnson's condition that talks must be "meaningful."

I don't know about you or Ho, but I've been lying up late at night, biting my fingernails and pulling my hair, trying to figure out what LBJ meant by this relative condition. What is meaningful to the President may not be meaningful to Ho, the NLF or Saigon.

For example, rumor has it that Mr. Johnson has been looking for a new barbecue sauce recipe. It seems that everyone who partakes of his Texan barbecues ends up with indigestion. Since the President always slaughters his finest steers for his guests, the sickness must stem from his barbecue sauce, which he imports from some tiny Southeast Asian country.

The fact that LBJ has sickened his guests has perturbed the President. Perhaps, he'd like to talk to Ho about it. The talks would certainly be meaningful because Mr. Johnson is in no position to lose friends because of poor culinary talents.

This was just one idea I had. It may seem silly, but it shouldn't be discounted because so many of our actions in the past have been facetious.

The other night was particularly bad. I sleeplessly paced my room, racking my brain for some idea as to what the President meant in his San Antonio formula. Finally, I envisioned the following dialogue between LBJ and Ho Chi Minh.

Johnson: Well, Ho, here we are. I bet you didn't think we'd make it, eh? You should've realized that we Texans are an ornery bunch. When we say something, we mean it.

Ho: I have to concede your point, Mr. Johnson. But let's not talk about how we've come to meet. Tell me, first, what you meant by "meaningful." No one seems to know. To tell you the truth, I came here more out of curiosity than anything else. So please, what do you mean, Mr. Johnson?

Johnson: (Whispers in Ho's ear) Promise to keep this thing to yourself? (Ho nods affirmatively) OK. Ho, you've been having a civil war for how long? Twenty years? It doesn't matter. Anyway, if America weren't around, you would have settled the problem right away, eh?

Ho: Damn right! But what are you getting at?

Johnson: Look, I want you to help me stop a civil war in America. Esquire magazine said we're going to have a civil war this summer. My commission on Civil Disorder predicts worse riots this summer. What am I to do?

Ho: Mr. Johnson, you've got to be kidding. You mean you brought me here to tell you how to quell your country?

Johnson: Well, we never had a modern civil war. Our last civil war was 100 years ago. You've been fighting for a generation. I'm sure you could help me prevent an American war.

Ho: Do you know why you're going to have this war? It's because you've been over here too long. You've neglected your people. And now that the Negro is upset, you can't help him because you're spending all your money in my country. You can't even stop the war because all your soldiers are in Vietnam. You want my advice? Yankee, go home!

Johnson: Ho, you're right. Vietnam isn't even worth New Mexico. I'll pull out American troops and have the money necessary for alleviating America's internal problems. Do you see what I mean by meaningful, now?

Ho: Yes. But, you've got to admit, you Americans have a funny way of starting and ending things. As a matter of fact, you Americans have a funny way of doing everything.

Johnson: Yep.

### TODAY ON CAMPUS

ASA Budget Committee, 7 p.m., 214-215 Hetzel Union Building  
 Campus Crus. de, 7:30 p.m., 216 HUB  
 Chess Team, 7 p.m., 217 HUB  
 Computer Science Department, 8 p.m., Main Lounge HUB  
 International Films, 7 p.m., Assembly Hall HUB  
 LOAC, 12:30 p.m., 214-215 HUB  
 Mortar Board, 9 a.m., 218 HUB  
 Reed Ferguson Tour Group, 10:30 a.m. and 1 p.m., Assembly Room HUB  
 USC, 7 p.m., 203 HUB  
 World University Service, 7 p.m., 312 Boucke

Successor to The Free Lance, est. 1887

## The Daily Collegian

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PAGE TWO THURSDAY, MARCH 7, 1968

### Letters to the Editor

#### Competitive Prices? Here?

TO THE EDITOR: Anyone who claims that the book situation in State College is "competitive" had better look the word up in a dictionary. Why the prices are almost perfectly uniform! Uniformly high! I bought a new engineering text last month for \$11.25 in a Pittsburgh bookstore (not Pitt's bookstore) after being frustrated by State College's best "competitive" price of \$13.50.

If the State College bookstores truly wish to be competitive, let them compete with bookstores at other major universities on the basis of one thing—price. I think many students here are unaware of what books cost elsewhere and therefore cannot see anything to be upset about.

I would like to see the Undergraduate Student Government enterprisingly compile a list of some common texts with State College prices and the prices charged elsewhere or even the proposed prices under the Whitman Book Shops plan. An economic comparison must be made clear to everyone.

Karl J. Leck Graduate

#### Squeezing the Pimple

TO THE EDITOR: Just a short note to let you know that some students sympathize with your benevolent hamlet's opposition to improvements such as free parking and a university operated bookstore.

The bookstore is the most despicable idea that we can think of. By our conservative estimate, the average student spends \$30 per term for books. At a minimum discount of 10 per cent for each of 25,000 students, this means \$75 thousand less profit per term among downtown book dealers. That is certainly appreciable. This would be analogous to squeezing the pus out of a big acne pimple.

Without leeching the students, this rest stop colony would simply cease to exist. We unite with your bosses against a student operated bookstore!

Brett Menaker  
 Richard Creamer  
 Marvin Weaver

### WDFM Schedule

4-4:05 p.m. — WDFM News sports and weather)  
 4:05-6 p.m. — Music of the Masters with Lou Barrari (Bruckner—Sym. # 4; Holst—Hammesmith; Reed—La Fiesta Mexican)  
 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,  
 7:15-8 p.m. — After Six (Continued)  
 8-10 p.m. — How About You with Mike Bartos (All request show)  
 10-10:05 p.m. — WDFM News  
 10:05-12 midnight — Symphonic Notebook — with Michael Machuga (Brahms—Sym. #1; Hindemith — M a t h i s der Maler)  
 12-12:05 a.m. — WDFM News



# ENGINEERS

DO YOU ENJOY BREATHING CLEAN AIR?  
 DO YOU LIKE TO DRINK PURE WATER?

Depending on where you live in the Commonwealth you may never have . . .

Air and Water Pollution Problems in Pennsylvania are changing and growing more complex. With the expanding suburban communities, the population proliferation and new industrial processes, increasing numbers of automobiles and changes in the amounts and character of refuse have affected the nature and amounts of air and water pollutants in the Commonwealth.

The Pennsylvania Department of Health needs your assistance to abate the growing air and water pollution menace in your state. Sanitary Engineering will be on campus:

March 11

If you will be receiving your degree in Civil, Chemical, Industrial, Sanitary or Mechanical Engineering, we invite you to sign up for an interview to discuss our program and your future.

## HUB Committees

on behalf of

# AWS WOMEN'S WEEK

present

## THE SOUL SURVIVORS

# JAMMY

## REC HALL

Saturday, March 30 8 P.M.

following registration

Tickets available this term from

AWS representatives;

during registration

at desk on HUB ground floor . . . \$1.00

# FASHION SUPPLEMENT—TOMORROW