



REBECCA GROSS, editor of the Lock Haven Express, will be guest speaker Sunday when the University's student chapter of Theta Sigma Phi, professional organization for women in journalism, initiates eight women from the State College area.

## Theta Sigma Phi To Initiate Eight

Eight State College area women will be initiated Sunday into Theta Sigma Phi, national professional organization for women in journalism and communications.

Sunday's ceremony will be the first initiation for women already working in journalism, conducted by the student chapter, Alpha Tau.

The initiation will be held from 2 to 5 p.m. in the Living Center of the College of Human Development. Rebecca Gross, editor and vice president of the Lock Haven Express, will be the guest speaker. Refreshments will be served.

### New Initiates

Chosen for membership for their contributions to journalism are Eleanor Blakely, publications writer in the Department of Continuing Education; Elinor Chamberlain, writer in the Department of Public Information; Jean McManis, publications manager for the University Press.

Nancy Miller, television specialist in the Department of Public Information; Alice Murray, home economics editor for the Cooperative Extension Service; Mary B. Rogers, women's editor for The Centre Daily Times.

Evelyn Saybel, adviser to the College of Human Development student publication, News and Views; and Marion Stocker, College of Human Development editor.

The initiates will organize a Theta Sigma Phi club to work with the student Alpha Tau chapter.

### Recipient of Award

Miss Gross is an associate member of Alpha Tau chapter. A graduate of the University of Pennsylvania, she joined the staff of the Express in 1925 and has served as editor since 1932.

Last year she was awarded the Pennsylvania Press Distinguished Service Award for dedication to journalism and widespread community involvement.

A native of Lock Haven, Miss Gross has been president of the Pennsylvania Associated Press. She has also been active in work with the Associated Press Managing Editors organization on the state and national level.

She has traveled to Europe several times with groups of writers and interviewed Fidel Castro on a trip to Cuba.

By DENISE DEMONG  
Collegian Staff Writer

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** This is the first in a series of articles examining the results of a student poll sponsored by the Undergraduate Student Government and the Department of Sociology and conducted Spring Term. Subsequent articles will explore student opinions about the draft, the Presidential race and campus activism.)

Are those Penn State students who are ready to become actively involved in demonstrations supporting student grievances going to remain an extremist few? Or is the prospect of a mass movement by the general student body becoming a reality?

With the birth of Walkertown and the Free Speech Movement, local as well as national interest is focusing increasingly on campus activism.

In a poll taken of Penn State students last Spring Term, 65 per cent of those questioned indicated it was in some degree likely that they would take part in grievance demonstrations.

Questioned about specific forms of protest employed by dissatisfied groups, half of the students supported the right of groups to "sit in" or "walk out" and stage mass protest demonstrations. Twelve per cent of the students condoned the use of civil disobedience, and an equal number felt its acceptability was dependent upon the situation. Only four per cent agreed with the use of riot tactics, while

another eight per cent were unsure.

The survey was initiated by Philip Klopp (10th-Jaw enforcement and correction-Richland) and backed by the Undergraduate Student Government. Klopp was responsible for the dating polls which created a considerable stir on campus in 1967 and 1968.

Klopp developed a set of questions to determine whether a correlation exists between one's degree of "political awareness" — interest and knowledge — and his opinions about the Vietnam War.

He secured the aid of David L. Westby, assistant professor of sociology and Richard G. Braungart, instructor of sociology. The survey was expanded to include variables tapping collective behavior on campus, propensity for student activism and student mobilization. Questions concerning campus issues, the selective service and civil rights were added.

### 755 Students Polled

The poll turned into a unique situation of students and faculty joining together to explore an area of mutual concern. The Department of Sociology provided funds and guidance, while undergraduates provided manpower and motivation.

A force of interested students were enlisted to poll a selected sample of 755 students, representing males and females, Greeks and independents and undergraduate and graduate students proportionate to the number enrolled here.

## 65 Per Cent Support Demonstrations

# Poll Probes Student Awareness

The material gathered in the survey is currently being processed to relate responses of the individual to his background and knowledge.

In the meantime, the available marginal data provides some surprising and interesting information about Penn State students' knowledge and ideas.

### Rockefeller Favored

The survey was taken in May, after Lyndon Johnson's withdrawal as a 1968 presidential contender and before the assassination of Robert Kennedy. Nelson Rockefeller emerged as the favorite candidate, supported by 23 per cent of the students polled, and edging out Eugene McCarthy (22 per cent) and Kennedy (20 per cent).

The two-later-to-be-nominated candidates, Richard Nixon and Hubert Humphrey, were supported by 15 per cent and seven per cent respectively. At that time, George Wallace was backed by one-half of one per cent of those questioned.

Has college altered the political orientation of the Penn State student? Twenty-nine per cent of the students indicated that they had become "more liberal" since attending, and ninety per cent said they were now "more conservative".

### 23 Per Cent 'More Aware'

Twenty-three per cent felt that they were basically "more aware". Slightly over one-third of those polled indicated no change in political orientation.

Although nearly one-fifth of the students said

that politics was "very important" to them, actual membership in political groups was low. Three per cent claimed membership in Young Republicans, one per cent in Young Democrats and a total of fewer than three per cent in any other political organizations.

The survey was largely intended to discover how much Penn State students actually read and know about current events. Nine-tenths of the participants successfully identified John Lindsay as the mayor of New York City, and nearly as many knew that Saigon is the capital of South Vietnam.

### Questioned on Bookstore, Pot

Nearly one-quarter, however, were not aware that Hanoi is the capital of North Vietnam. Although the survey was taken soon after the death of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, only 40 per cent of the students could name Ralph Abernathy, new president of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference.

The survey also touched on issues of local concern. Seventy-one per cent of the students were acquainted with students who smoke or had smoked marijuana. Nearly half felt that laws concerning "lesser drugs" such as marijuana should be less stringent, while 27 per cent felt that drug laws should be made tougher.

The poll found students fairly equally divided about whether the downtown bookstores treat students fairly and about the effectiveness of the Undergraduate Student Government as representative of the student body.

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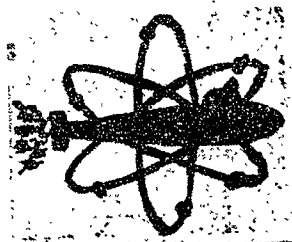
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