

University Senate: Open the Door Wide

THE UNIVERSITY SENATE finally seems to have awakened to the advisability of student inclusion in the decision-making process, though the matter of how much inclusion is still unsettled.

The Senate is considering changes in its constitution which would allow students the right to vote in that powerful body, presently composed of faculty members and administration representatives with only token student non-voting representation on the various Senate committees.

The Senate Committee on Committees and Rules, which is considering the constitutional change, rebuffed the proposal for student inclusion as recently as last June.

IN TURNING DOWN the idea, the committee cited two reasons. The first was that the Senate was constituted only three years ago "after an exhaustive study" and the unanimous adoption of the constitution, by-laws and standing rules, indicating "overwhelming approval of the principles—especially those of composition.

It is ridiculous to think change is uncalled for because the present Senate has been constituted for only three years and the rules were adopted unanimously at that time.

The second reason was even more ridiculous. The committee determined that a conflict of interest could arise if person were voting on academic policy while pursuing a degree at Penn State.

NOT ONLY DID the committee not point out that faculty members must vote on what they teach, they also failed to foresee the conflict of interest which would arise in the debate over the term versus the semester system at the next Senate meeting. Faculty members argued long and hard over which system was best, at least from the standpoint of how each Senator would

be affected as far as salary and research grants were concerned.

Now that the Committee has seen the foolhardiness of these reasons for rejection, there is another matter which needs to be resolved before the Senate may earn the honored title "University Senate."

This matter concerns the percentage of representation which students would receive in the true University Senate.

SEVERAL PROPOSALS are being considered by the Committee. The percentages of representation range from 10 per cent (the number of students on Senate committees) to about 30 per cent. These are inadequate.

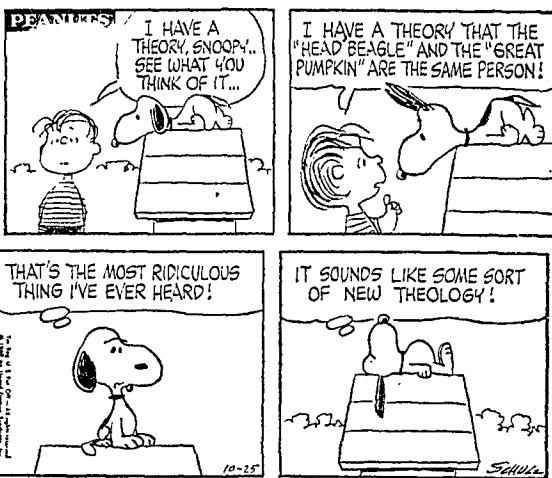
Students should be allotted 50 per cent of the seats to achieve meaningful representation in a true University Senate. A fair breakdown would have to be worked out. For instance, undergraduates could elect 30 per cent of the Senators according to colleges. Graduate students would be responsible for electing 10 per cent by colleges and the Commonwealth Campuses would be allotted 10 per cent also.

The Administration would keep its 15 per cent representation in order to have a hand in the legislation it would be required to implement, and the faculty would be left with an allocation of 35 per cent of the Senators.

STUDENTS HAVE BEEN fighting for a long time to achieve faculty recognition of their capabilities outside the University classrooms. It has been a bitter fight, uphill all the way until now, when the Senate is finally opening the door a crack.

However, a crack is not good enough. A mere crack will not alleviate the feeling of student impotency at not being included in the decision-making process.

THE CRACK MUST BE widened, the door must be opened all the way to give students a meaningful hand in the process which directly affects the whole University community.



Daily Collegian Letter Policy
The Daily Collegian welcomes... The Daily Collegian office, 20 Sackett, in comes comments on news coverage so proper identification erage, editorial policy, and of the writer can be made. all-campus or on-campus affairs. Though names will be withheld Letters must be typewritten, by request. If letters are re-double-spaced, signed by no ceived by mail, Collegian will more than two persons, and no contact the signer for verifi- longer than 36 lines. Students' cation. The Collegian reserves letters should include name, the right to fairly select, edit term and major of the writer, and condense all letters. They should be brought to the

'The Lion in Winter'

By PAUL SEYDOR
Collegian Film Critic

Once had the unforgettable experience of attending a concert of some of Mozart's lighter salon pieces which the conductor performed as if they were towering statements like Beethoven's Ninth or Wagner's prelude to "Tristan." The poor man was utterly desperate, and the results were wretched, as he shook the music for profundities it just doesn't have, stretched it to a scale it just couldn't take, heaped on it meanings it just can't and was never meant to support. Not only did he fail to imbue the music with an extrinsic quality, but he almost destroyed its intrinsic quality — its grace and poise and delicacy.

Something similar happens to the movie version of "The Lion in Winter." Directed by Anthony Harvey and adapted by James Gold man from his (too) highly acclaimed play, the movie pretends to historical relevance by centering on the struggle between King Henry II and his Queen Eleanor of Aquitaine over which of their sons will inherit the throne. But the historical filler is just that—filler—while the play is really nothing more than a clever, trashy domestic squabble, peopled by a family of hideous characters who it's fun to watch bicker because they trade such hilariously nasty invectives. Although as drama the play is hardly the quality of the Mozart pieces as music, it could conceivably be entertaining, in a production scaled to size where the pretentious "serious" stuff is played straight and paced fast to allow the acidic humor to prevail.

But the movie makers treat the play as if it were "King Lear" cum-Holmesed... as if it were

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pawn; or when the level of intellect settles around such smoldering banalities as "In a world where carpenters can get resurrected anything is possible"; or when the imagery features such stupid incongruities as Henry wandering in out of a stormy night to declare "The sky is pocked with stars."

We're liable to think it's all a fantastic put-on and maybe it would be better if it were. I can easily imagine someone with Orson Welles's gigantic sense of humor transforming billiousness and pomposity into a high comic style in order to extract all the potential humor in the disparity between a large-minded production and a small-minded play. This is what Peter O'Toole does with his shouting stomping flailing performance. He carries the gesture of conceit to such an extreme that he manages to stylize it. He's so blatant and obvious that he's almost subtle; only those who are taking the play seriously miss the bulge in his cheek.

And if Harvey and Goldman had a similar flair for irony and could have gotten Katherine Hepburn to stop taking her part so seriously (and to drop that stifling-back-the-tears trick of hers). "The Lion in Winter" might have been a magnificent conquest of style. But they haven't that sense of irony; indeed one suspects that haven't even a sense of humor. And it's apparent neither has much of a cinematic sense.

"The Lion in Winter" is possibly the worst example of "opening up" a play that I've ever seen. Whole scenes are broken up or shifted around for no other reason than to establish simultaneous planes of action even at the expense of dramatic sense. Or the characters will often take long walks just to keep the camera moving, the locale shifting. This last practice is not only irritating because we're so aware of its artificiality but it has a way of uncovering the play's talkiness and repetitiveness. In a movie when the scene shifts to a new locale we're accustomed to expecting something new a further development an extension of the action or the meaning. And when it doesn't occur the new setting only throws the old content into greater relief. These characters just walk and walk and talk and talk and talk and talk gnawing the bones that were pretty meatless to begin with so that by the time Eleanor and Henry deny their love for the fifth time after asserting it for the fourth you don't care if they ever make up their minds. It's even duller when Harvey dwells on them with loving close-ups because he only diminishes their appeal. These characters are entertaining only because they're so fiendishly hideous; make them sympathetic and decent and you obliterate the only interest they've got.

It would be nice to conclude by saying that the often elegant photography, the lovely landscapes and the occasionally good acting are enjoyable in themselves. But the truth is they work against enjoyment; faced with such expense and such effort wasted on such slight and insignificant material you're embarrassed and offended. And when Oscars were parcelled out to Hepburn for her uncharacteristically poor performance and to the talented John Barry for his "sophisticated" topics as court intrigue, incest and homosexuality and fashions them all into a play of almost inconceivable nonsense. What are we to think when amid all this authenticity of detail and verisimilitude of setting, the quality of metaphor runs along lines like "Kings, queens and knights everywhere and I'm the only

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PAGE TWO SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25, 1969

Letters to the Collegian Editor

Typically Naive Slant

TO THE EDITOR: The slant of your recent article concerning defense spending on university campuses was typical of the naive morally self-righteous attitude that we have come to expect from The Daily Collegian.

The article raised the question "What public interest is served by the research and development of weapons of mass destruction..."

After we bypass the chimeric moral question we are faced with the cold reality of the necessity of maintaining an effective deterrent in a world fraught with tension. To advocate that the leading scientists in the nations should be locked away in an ivory tower when their skills are needed in the very real struggle to maintain a balance of power (which presently is the only factor which guarantees a general peace) is absurd.

On a more mundane level one must consider that whether or not military research continues on the campus it will continue. Thus, if campus research ends we may be well assured that the government will set up costly military research centers of its own, thus diverting much needed funds from domestic programs.

The university becomes absurd if it becomes so entangled in ethical red tape that it cannot discern practical realities.
Charles A. Mills
(7th-Foreign Service-Youngstown, Ohio)

No National Recognition

TO THE EDITOR: Your recent editorial protesting the Nittany Lions' slippage in the national rankings is a beautiful example of letting your emotions override your common sense.

Now we are all proud of the Penn State football team but we must put things in proper perspective. Let's face it, despite Coach Paterno's protestations, the schedule is indeed a joke. Perennial football powers such as Notre Dame, Texas, etc., would be embarrassed to play Penn State's schedule. It speaks for itself when it is said that West Virginia (UGH!) is our toughest opponent.

Until Penn State begins to play a truly representative schedule, such as Notre Dame plays, it will have to be content to be the best in the East and neither deserves nor should expect any national recognition.

Peter J. Kerney
Instructor, Mechanical Engineering

USG: Legitimized Violence?
TO THE EDITOR: In Spring Term of last year the Undergraduate Student Government voted to join the National Student Association, an intercollegiate organization consisting of a union of student governments. Several years ago Penn

State withdrew from NSA after a student referendum—what right did USG have to rejoin this organization without another student referendum? USG, at the time of its reentry into NSA, claimed that as the representative of the students it had the right to join without referendum. However, without a referendum, in which students could reveal their opinions on the positions held by NSA, how can the USG state that it truly represents the will of the majority in supporting NSA's position.

Although only student governments are represented in NSA, the positions NSA supports concern the students. For example, NSA has asked for Federal control and inspection of Fraternity admissions and operating standards—has NSA or our USG which has supported Berkeley Riots as "responsible action."

By supporting NSA's position, USG has legitimized violence as a form of responsible political action at Penn State. If a referendum were held, how many students would agree to this? Therefore, since issues taken up by NSA will affect the students of this campus and not merely USG, the decision for membership in NSA must be left up to those concerned—the students.

Wayne E. White
7th LA-Willow Grove
Alan Montross
4th EE-Noxon

TIME

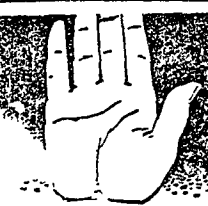
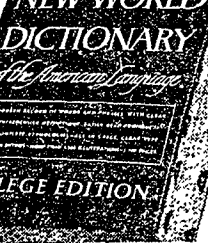
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By letter count, the longest word may be pneumonoultramicroscopicsilicovolcanococcus, a rare lung disease. You won't find it in Webster's New World Dictionary, College Edition. But you will find more useful information about words than in any other desk dictionary.

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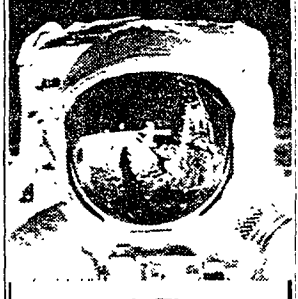
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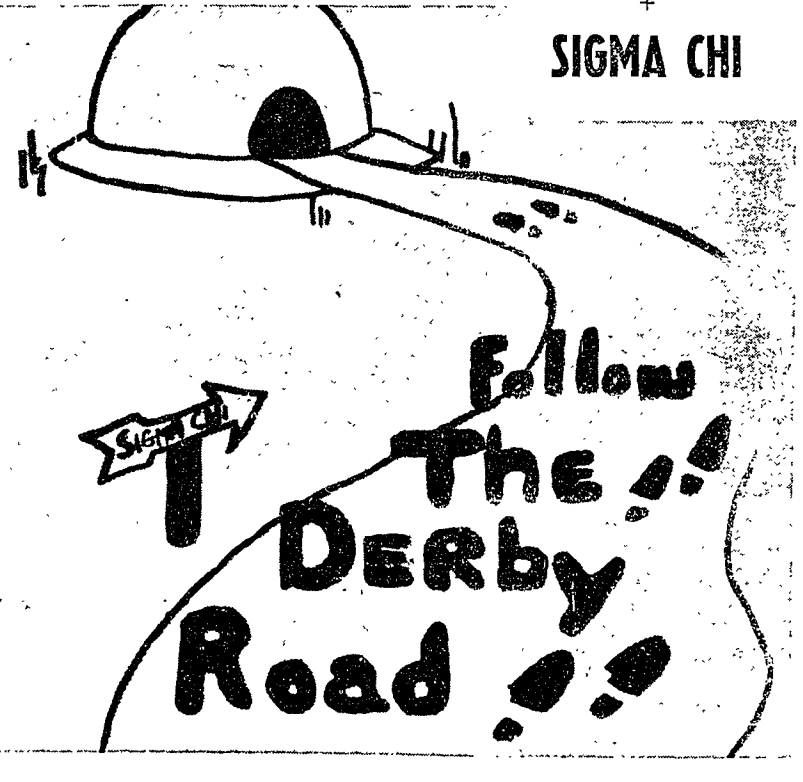
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