

Lobbying Efforts

A CONVENTION OF delegates from several Pennsylvania colleges this weekend gave a welcome boost to student efforts to create a lobby in Harrisburg.

When it came to serious and crucial debate on issues affecting the University, such as those preceding a vote on education appropriations, students in the past lacked any voice in the matter. They still do.

But the establishment of the Pennsylvania Association of College and University Student Governments may change that. It is beginning with a small base — only eight of 136 schools sent representatives to a convention last weekend — but several important goals were reached.

THE GROUP MANAGED to draw up a constitution and establish a permanent steering committee, which will coordinate funds, oversee the operation of PACUSG and initiate legislation into its general assembly.

PACUSG representatives say it will take at least two years for the Harrisburg lobby concept to become a working reality. We hope it will be sooner; but the group plans to work actively on other projects until the lobby goal, which is the most important one, can be realized.

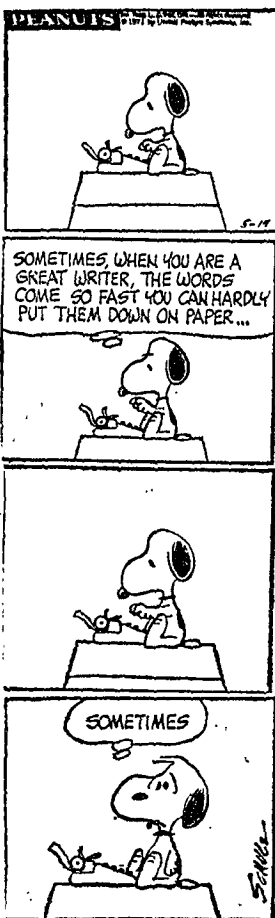
One of their immediate goals ties

the lobbying concept in with the Public Interest Research Group concept of consumer advocate Ralph Nader. A strong and active PACUSG is necessary, its members say, so that Nader's associates will declare Pennsylvania a "target state" for establishing a PIRG.

ONCE THE PIRG is established, PACUSG would receive much greater financial and activist support, giving the student lobby effort that much greater impetus.

All these interim programs are good ones, and deserve support. But we must not forget the major emphasis: establishing a student lobby in Harrisburg. University students here recently gained local power when the governor announced he would appoint a student to the Board of Trustees. PACUSG will give students all over the state some added influence, working as a unit when the legislature discusses college appropriations. This is a yet-untapped area in which students urgently need a voice.

PACUSG STILL IS a fledgling organization, with only small student support. Nevertheless, its coordinators are dedicated toward creating a strong student voice in Harrisburg — a voice which is vital and necessary. We support them in their efforts to build this lobby.



Letters to the Editor

Lack of vocabulary

TO THE EDITOR: I am just an outsider, but have been on the University Park campus during the last two war rallies, more commonly called protests. I was always under the impression that the idea of the college was for higher education. If my only two visits to this campus were to give me this impression I must say they have fallen quite short. Not that the majority of the students are responsible or are even taking part in the protests, but to an outsider the impression is there. This impression generated by approximately one per cent of the total college population is very distasteful. The chants that are being used and the obscenities that are used in many of the speeches could definitely be in better taste.

Profanity and vulgarity are nothing more than the showing of a person's lack of vocabulary. If this is the purpose of such chants the students that attend these protests and use these four-letter words are doing a fine job of showing their lack of vocabulary. Certainly educated people could compile a better way of expressing themselves than through the obscene four-letter word way.

Anything of this caliber, be it protest or otherwise, is nothing more than a distraction and accomplishes nothing in the way of results. Protests have brought about results but the results were not arrived at through four-letter obscenities.

Maybe through the use of a good dictionary this problem could be alleviated and students could express the same meaning intended, but through the use of a vocabulary instead of through the lack of one.

J. Davis
assistant to bookstore coordinator

Mischanneled monies

TO THE EDITOR: Last Saturday's sports page included an article stating: "If Penn State students are boycotting anything this spring, it's baseball, tennis, golf and track." This may very well be true, and moreover, if that's the case it is a very encouraging situation. It's about time that people came to realize that the true function of a university is

the intellectual and physical betterment of all students, not just an elite five-, nine- or eleven-man team.

Penn State does have an excellent intramural program, but it could be made even better with a transfer of funds from University-supported teams. Part of the large sums of money now destined to benefit a very small minority of athletes could also be channeled into worthwhile social programs. The admissions of more minority group individuals is one such project that would eventually benefit all of society.

Yet, since these monies are considered "departmental," the College of Health, Physical Education and Recreation would probably be reluctant to give up these funds. If this is the case, then I say at least put them where they'll do the most good. The true profits of athletics are not measured by the number of spectators or the box office take. They are determined by the number of people who participate and benefit.

Paul Engman
(6th-recreation and parks-Kane, Pa.)

Cheers to Ritenour

TO THE EDITOR: After reading many denigrating letters and articles on Ritenour Health Center, I would like to recount my experiences there. I was admitted to the Emergency ward at approximately 3 a.m. after lying unconscious in a field for some time after totalling a station wagon. I do not know who brought me to the hospital, but I thank him for his samaritan instincts.

I have been trained as a medic in the army, been in both civilian and military hospitals both working and as a patient, and I have never been taken care of as well anywhere.

From the moment I was carried in, until I walked out four days later, I was under constant surveillance by the nurses: hourly TPR's and my every need taken care of with quickness and serenity. (When one takes into consideration that the dispensary handles thousands of students each term and the hospital hundreds with damn little appreciation from the student body, it seemed to me the best way to say thank you was through a Collegian letter.)

I would personally like to thank nurses Galus, Pane and Delahout for the excellent services rendered me and Drs. Chub, Franco, Shipley and Reed for the attention and care given me.

Glenn J. Morris
(graduate-speech-Kane, Pa.)

Basis for merit system

TO THE EDITOR: I was quoted in Saturday's Collegian as saying that "a majority of the USG Senators do not support a letter proposing that the student body consist of at least 30 per cent veterans and disadvantaged students." What I said was that several senators did not support this proposal. I do not know whether a majority support it or not. I brought up the point at a meeting with Oswald the other night in Simmons Hall, I told him that I was against such a proposal as were several other senators because we believe that the merit system is much more fair. In an area where the quota system has finally been done away with so that students can enter on an equal basis, such a proposal is very regressive. The answer to the problem is to spend more money in the secondary school system for those that are disadvantaged so that they are able to enter any college. As for one's potential, this should always be considered a basis for admission, regardless of the person's background. I hope I have cleared up my position on this matter.

Jan Levenberg
USG senator.

Successor to The Free Lance, est. 1887

The Daily Collegian

Mail Subscription Price: \$12.00 a year
 Mail Address: Box 1000, State College, Pa. 16801
 Editorial and Business Office — Basement of Sackett (North End)
 Phone — 845-2521
 Business Office hours: Monday through Friday, 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.
 Member of The Associated Press
 ROBERT J. McHUGH, Editor
 DRUE E. HAYDT, Business Manager
 Opinions expressed by the editors and staff of The Daily Collegian are not necessarily those of the University Administration, faculty, or student body.
 PAGE TWO WEDNESDAY, MAY 19, 1971

The \$14 million, 5-year production may make or break MGM

Ryan's Daughter—too long and overproduced

By JOE MEYERS
Collegian Film Critic

It took five years for "Ryan's Daughter" to reach the screen. David Lean and Robert Bolt started work on it immediately after their "Doctor Zhivago" was wrapped up in 1965.

Because of the success of "Zhivago" Lean and Bolt were given a blank check by MGM for their next project. So, after Bolt finished the script (which he says required over a year's work), shooting was started under Lean's direction in Ireland, with a \$14 million budget.

Things have changed tremendously in movies since '65. More and more pictures are bombing at the box-office every year, and nearly all the multi-million dollar productions have been major disasters ("Paint Your Wagon," "Star," et al).

MGM, in particular, has suffered heavily since they gave the go-ahead on "Ryan." One large box-office failure ("Zabriskie Point") after another ("The Strawberry Statement") has brought the studio near the bankruptcy point. So, the importance of David Lean's \$14 million production has changed greatly since it was conceived. The success, or failure, of the studio is very nearly riding on this one picture's financial future.

Publicity Build-up
 Earlier this year, the studio's huge publicity machinery began to crank out reams of copy on the film. The sales pitch steadily increased in volume until the premiere in November.

When the film finally was cut and ready for release, it was first shown to the members of the Motion Picture Association, who would determine its rating. On the first ballot, "Ryan's Daughter" was given an R (mainly because of a brief shot of Sarah Miles' breasts). An almost audible shudder could be heard going up in MGM's executive offices — a reserved seat, roadshow attraction like "Ryan" depends on the family trade for business; thus, the MPA

rating, in effect, killed the prospect of commercial-success for the production.

Metro then told the MPA that it would not put the R in the film's advertisements or publicity material (as required under the system), even if appeals before the rating panel did not change the rating. The MPA then backed down and changed the rating to a G (unrestricted).

Campaign Success

The huge selling campaign on behalf of the film succeeded with most of the New York critics. Nearly all of the newspaper, television and radio reviewers (with the exception of the Times) gave it their strongest possible rating. Rex Reed, of Holiday, who seems to find a new masterpiece every month (which he promptly labels "the best picture I've seen in years"), called it "a major event in the history of the movies."

Stop At Nothing

They don't do this for every film, of course (even the studios realize that things like "Tora, Tora, Tora" and "Darling Lili" are hopeless bombs), but when as much is riding on a picture as is the case with "Ryan's Daughter" you can be pretty sure that MGM will stop at nothing to make it succeed. Is it merely a coincidence that the Times (one of the very few papers in the country which keeps its critics entirely free of advertising pressures) was the only lukewarm, mass circulation New York review?

Despite the blatant high-pressure sales job, one can't really criticize "Ryan's Daughter" too much (not in a season that brought us "Zachariah," among others) — it's not that awful. It is, though, too damned long and boring. When I first saw the film, many in the audience got up to leave at the intermission, and were surprised to learn from their fellow viewers that the picture was only half over.

Lackluster Performer

The acting in the movie ranges from mediocre (Robert Mitchum) to very bad (Jon Mills). Sara Miles is a rather odd choice for the title role. She's been good in several other films, but still she is a rather lackluster performer, and is totally unable to carry such a huge movie. Someone

with a little screen presence and dazzle, like Vanessa Redgrave or Maggie Smith, might have made it worth sitting through.

Maurice Jarre's music for films has slumped to an almost obscene level with "Ryan's Daughter." His work has become literally unbearable. Jarre takes one bad Nina Rota-like theme (Rota is the famed composer who has scored most of Fellini's films), and repeats it again and again and again, for the entire length of the picture. Near the end, it gets to the point where one can not believe that the theme is going to be dragged out yet again—but it is. No music at all would have been infinitely more suited to the picture than Jarre's aural drivel—it very nearly ruins the impact of Fred Young's gorgeous color photography.

Long and Overproduced

All of the fuss surrounding the production and release of the movie could have been avoided if anyone at Metro had had the sense to carefully look at the script, and to realize that it had no commercial possibility. "Ryan's Daughter" is most certainly not the kind of film that I would pick to determine the success or failure of any enterprise that I headed. Nobody (except the critics I mentioned) seems to care for it. Most people come out of the movie thinking that it is just too long and overproduced for the slight story that it contains.

But, because of the huge success of "Bridge on the River Kwai," "Lawrence of Arabia," and "Doctor Zhivago" (all mammoth films), David Lean undoubtedly came to the conclusion that no matter what script he chose for his next project, it had to be a \$10-million-plus, three hour picture. He fell into the trap of thinking that each of his subsequent pictures had to be bigger and better than the last one (whereas, in reality, they have only gotten bigger and emptier). I would not be at all surprised if "Ryan's Daughter" was to become Lean's last film—for in the increasingly tight movie market he will either have to make small pictures, or no pictures at all.

IFC and PANHEL

present

THE GUESS WHO

in CONCERT

SUNDAY MAY 23

8 p.m.

REC HALL

Tickets On Sale

Thru Friday, May 17-21 From

9:00 A.M. till 4:30 P.M.

Ground Floor HUB

Elections for EMS
Student Representative to the University Senate
 will be held on
Wed. May 19 and Thur. May 20
 in Dieke Lobby

The following candidates are running:
Mary Ann Hrivnak
 6th term Meteorology
James McCrory
 6th term Geography
Billy C. Williams
 9th term Meteorology
Claude Bolze
 10th term Geological Science

Penn State Players
 are now accepting applications
 for membership until
Monday, May 24

- 51 years at PSU
- Theatrical production planned for '71-'72 yr.
- Co-sponsor of Neuspaum
- Scholarship Fund
- Social functions with others interested in the Theater
- Possible sponsorship of individual projects

Applications Available at 103 Arts Building

Hi-Way Pizza

4 CUTS OF PIZZA
 80c
 PLUS FREE DRINK
 at The Cut Shop
 Garner Street
 Monday - Friday 5-8 P.M.

PIZZA & BEER TONIGHT
HERLOCHER'S

THE COPPER KITCHEN
 For SPUMONI RUM CAKES CREAM and PECAN PIES
 Located at the corner of College and Garner

SALE!
 May 19 till End of Term
\$1 OFF ANYTHING OVER \$3.99
 at
VALHALLA
 Mon. 11-9 153 S. Allen St.
 Tues.-Fri. 11-8 (below Penn Whelan Drug Store)
 Sat. 10-5:30 237-9585

Today Celebration of the Ascention Community Eucharist
10:P.M. Grace Church
Lutheran Student Parish

Parisienne

¼ carat \$163.00
 ½ carat \$213.00
 ¾ carat \$291.00
 1 carat \$347.00

Prices vary depending on diamond quality and exact weight. We'd be pleased to show you the difference.
 Guaranteed Five Ways

From the Diamond Room at
moyer jewelers
 216 EAST COLLEGE AVENUE
 Financing Available
 Open Monday and Friday Nights till Nine