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The 30's: big bands, frat life popular



Donald Meyer, fraternity alum

By BETH BOYD
Collegian Staff Writer

Donald Meyer, class of 1938, attended Penn State when enrollment was only 4,000. Meyer remembers when dances at Rec Hall were the biggest events of the year: "Rec Hall was always jammed for the Soph Hop and the Senior Ball."

Meyer, now a local dairy farmer in State College, reminisced about Greek life in the 30's, when he delivered milk to 24 fraternities from his father's farm. Although he lived on his father's farm as a student, he considered himself a brother of several fraternities.

Meyer remembers dances with Tommy Dorsey, Guy Lombardo and Glenn Miller with houses paying as much as \$6,000 for the evening's entertainment.

Meyer said "It's a shame" the fraternity system is "in a state of confusion . . . it looks to me as though boys today aren't interested in associating with a group . . . they're looking for a companionship or marriage relationship rather than one of brotherhood."

Meyer said this change of attitude is because the University allows coed living. "In those days boys were separated from the girls."

In fact, they were on opposite ends of the campus. Women, who were outnumbered by men eight to one, lived in sorority houses or in Grange, McAllister or Atherton Hall. Independent men lived in West Halls. "But most of us lived in frat houses."

Meyer voiced a feeling that fraternities have been going down hill. He said the decline began about four years ago. "Students today want to live more independently," he explained.

In the late 30's, according to Meyer, fraternities were considered "the elite type of living," with the best social life on campus.

Frat life was more like family life," Meyer explained. Since families were larger "in my day, fraternity life more closely followed the family tradition. Home ties were stronger back then," Meyer added.

Meyer recalled when cooks were "mom" and people

were specifically hired to clean fraternities, while in recent years members took this responsibility themselves.

Forty years ago fraternities were "more particular about who they chose. To belong to a fraternity you had to be in the upper part of the class," Meyer noted. It was a privilege to become a brother.

Meyer said the deterioration of the Greek system may be due to the University's increased enrollment. "There were a little more than 4,000 students here in my day and Grange was in the eastern most part of campus." There were 600 students in his graduating class.

When Meyer was a Penn State student, "fraternities were considered the collegiate way of life," there was more "loyalty" to the chapter, and there were no ill feelings toward fraternity members.

Although fraternity living cost a little more, according to Meyer, many members were willing to do outside work to help pay house expenses.

"We also had a more effective Interfraternity Council that was more interested in houses because frats were stronger."


Today Donald Meyer is selling the fraternity house his father financed in 1931, originally built for Theta Nu Epsilon fraternity, which no longer exists at Penn State.

Before Tau Kappa Phi fraternity died, it also lived in Meyer's house, 321 Fraternity Row. Delta Phi fraternity left it July 31 this year. It was too big for its 15 brothers, who have found refuge elsewhere.

Theta Nu Epsilon folded in 1942 leaving the house in bad financial shape. Today, untrimmed shrubbery and a broken lamp post greet each visitor. Meyer explained the cause for fallen plaster, broken windows and rifle holes from a 22 rifle as negligence of past residents.

One thing remained unchanged. A sign on the door to a private room which said, "Metropole Cafe: Minimum two drinks per person at bar or tables."

"In its day it was one of the most popular and nicest fraternities on campus," Meyer reminisced.



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U.S., USSR launch SALT II

GENEVA (AP) — The United States and the Soviet Union launch SALT II today and both seem optimistic that they will achieve a permanent curb on offensive nuclear weapons.

SALT stands for Strategic Arms Limitations Talks. Phase I of the talks opened Nov. 17, 1969 in Helsinki, Finland, and wound up last May while President Nixon was visiting Moscow.

Deputy Foreign Minister Vladimir Semenov, head of the Soviet delegation, arrived yesterday for Phase II and told newsmen he is under instructions to do the utmost to make SALT II a success.

"Of course, we proceed from the premise that the American side will act in the same constructive and businesslike manner," he said.

The U.S. chief negotiator, Gerard C. Smith, struck an even more confident note when he flew into Geneva Friday. He said he was hopeful that the talks would come to a successful conclusion well before the 1977 deadline.

The optimistic tone contrasted with expert assessments forecasting tedious bilateral bargaining in trying to draft a comprehensive treaty limiting offensive nuclear weapons. These are now frozen for five years under an interim agreement signed by Nixon in Moscow last May along with a lasting curb on antiballistic missiles.

The opening round of SALT II, likely to last until shortly before Christmas, is to lay the

groundwork for the strategic talks that could last for the duration of the interim accord. Swiss authorities have been asked that they should prepare to host the delegations — numbering about 30 on each side — for a maximum of five years.

Priority in the initial discussions here is officially to go to the establishment of a Standing Consultative Commission provided for under the permanent treaty limiting the ABMs. The body is to consider the treaty's operations on a regular basis, including questions of compliance, and would also accept complaints.

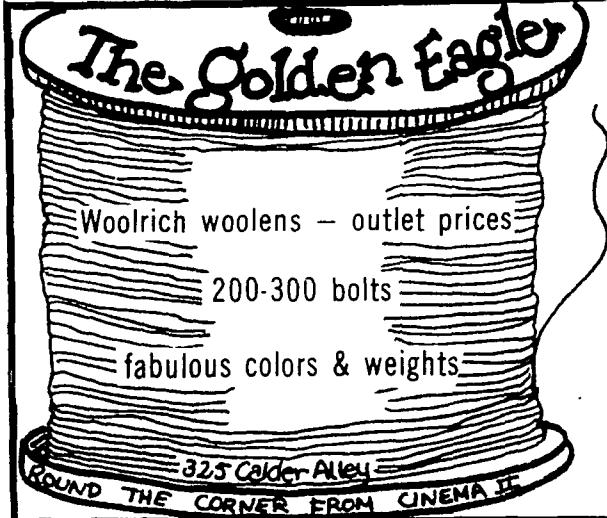
Smith expects it will come into being sometime next year but has made plain there is no urgency about it. The comment, at a news conference, indicated that both sides thus far are satisfied with the existing machinery, with verification relying exclusively on national

means, chiefly satellites.

While there are apparently no problems in ensuring compliance with the ABMs curbs — limiting each side to 200 ABMs located around the national capitals and around offensive missile complexes — verification is believed to prompt arduous discussions in SALT II.

Complex questions, for example, could be involved in limiting MIRVs, multiple warheads, that are difficult to monitor by satellite inspection. This could produce an issue that has long stalled the U.N. disarmament talks where the United States continues to insist on some kind of on-site inspection — something which the Soviet Union has made plain it will never accept.

Officials have emphasized that the same strict secrecy that has been rigidly followed in the two and a half year SALT I negotiations also will be observed in Geneva



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Kern shows Kizina's art

Recent paintings by Jean P. Kizina will continue on exhibit in the Commons Gallery of Kern Graduate Center through Tuesday.

Critics have described her paintings as strange, mystic, body combinations of legs, arms, buttocks, etc., swirling in vortex. Through the competent use of color technology and space, a sense of vibration and envelopment is felt when viewing the

State seeking sample data

The Pennsylvania Commission on the Status of Women is seeking resumes from women who are interested in employment as engineers and attorneys.

This is not a job offer. The commission is attempting to determine the availability of women for positions in these fields.

All interested women should send their resumes to: Pa. Commission on the Status of Women, Room 609, Main Capitol Building, Harrisburg, Pa. 17120.

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CONFLICT EXAMINATION SCHEDULE FOR FALL TERM ANNOUNCED

Printed below is the final examination period conflict schedule for Fall Term, 1972. Only those students assigned to a conflict examination period should follow the schedule outlined here. All other students will have their final examination period at the time and place announced in the originally published schedule.

Students with conflict schedules may pick up their copy of the assignment form at the University Scheduling Office, Room 110 Shields Building. If, for any reason, an instructor has not received notification of the students assigned to the conflict meeting, the student's copy of the conflict request and assignment form may be used to certify that he has been assigned to the conflict meeting thereon indicated.

The interpretation of the time designations used in the final examination period schedule is as follows:

TH — Thursday, December 7, 1972
F — Friday, December 8, 1972
S — Saturday, December 9, 1972
M — Monday, December 11, 1972

8:00 — 8:00 to 9:50 a.m.
10:10 — 10:10 a.m. to 12 noon
1:30 — 1:30 to 3:20 p.m.
3:40 — 3:40 to 5:30 p.m.
7:00 — 7:00 to 8:50 p.m.
9:10 — 9:10 to 11:00 p.m.

| | | | |
|--|------------|--|----------|
| Accounting (ACCTG) 201 TH 8:00 | 323 Boucke | Geography (GEOG) 20 S 8:00 | 21 Deike |
| Biochemistry (BIOCH) 41 Appr. TH 8:00 | | German (GER) 1 Appr. TH 8:00 | 107 Sac |
| Biological Science (B SC) 1 S 1:30 | 111 LS | 2 Appr. S 10:10 | 110 Sac |
| Biology (BIOL) 13 S 8:00 | 2 S Frear | 3 History (HIST) 20 Appr. | |
| 472 TH 10:10 | 211 Bor | 114 Industrial Engineering (I E) Appr. | |
| Business Law (B LAW) 398G Appr. F 1:30 | | 322 Appr. F 1:30 | 206 HB |
| Business Logistics (B LOG) 102 Appr. TH 8:00 | | Law Enforcement and Correction (LEC) 110 Appr. | |
| Chemical Engineering (CH E) 130 Appr. | | Marketing (MKTG) 122 Appr. | |
| Chemistry (CHEM) 12 Appr. TH 8:00 | 109 OL | Mathematics (MATH) 6 S 8:00 | 102 MB |
| 451 TH 3:40 | 113 OL | 10 Appr. | |
| Civil Engineering (C E) 15 TH 8:00 | 106 Sac | 20 S 1:30 | 103 MB |
| 51 F 1:30 | 106 Sac | 61 S 8:00 | 103 MB |
| 342 Appr. F 1:30 | | 62 S 10:10 | 103 MB |
| Computer Science (CMPSC) 401 Appr. TH 8:00 | | 71 F 1:30 | 104 MB |
| Economics (ECON) 302 Appr. F 3:40 | 201 Wil | 81 F 1:30 | 115 MB |
| 351 Appr. TH 8:00 | | 100 S 8:00 | 273 Wil |
| Electrical Engineering (E E) 61 Appr. | | Mechanical Engineering (M E) 22 F 8:00 | 326 HB |
| Engineering (ENGR) 100 Appr. M 8:00 | 115 EEW | 31 Appr. | |
| Engineering Mechanics (E MCH) 12 Appr. TH 1:30 | 101 EEW | 50 Appr. | |
| 13 TH 1:30 | | 51 Appr. | |
| English (ENGL) 1 S 10:10 | 203 Wil | Metallurgy (METAL) 59 Th 3:40 | 225 MI |
| 1 F 1:30 | 219 Wil | Physics (PHYS) 203, 204 TH 1:30 | 104 OL |
| | | Quantitative Business Analysis (QBA) 101 Appr. | |
| | | Sociology (SOC) S 10:10 | 174 Wil |
| | | Theatre (THEA) 190 S 1:30 | 201 Wil |

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